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The Smills of Th

Bahraini minister starts Europe tour

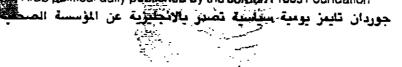
DUBAI (AFP) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohamamd Ben Mubarak Al Khalifa left for Switzerland at the start of a European tour Monday which will also take him to London, where a de-ported sheikh has requested political asylum. The Bahraini news agency GNA said Sheikh Khalifa was to visit Geneva first, for talks with U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali. His tour will understand for the wood for that they would fe then take him to France for talks Thursday with his natiney would be and in the said the sa French counterpart Alain Juppe and to London, where he will probably meet British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, Foreign Office sources said. His tour follows a wave of unrest in December — the worst violence seen in the former British protectorate since it gained independence

Egypt cracks down on Brotherhood

CAIRO (AP) — In a sweeping crackdown, Egypt on Monday accessed members of the mainstream Muslim Brotherhood, the accused members of the mainstream Muslim Brotherhood, the country's largest Islamic fundamentalist organisation, of plotting to overthrow the regime and funnelling money to extremist groups. The Interior Ministry issued a statement saying Brotherhood members were arrested Sunday throughout Egypt, including the country's three biggest cities — Cairo, Alexandria and Assiut — but gave no number for those detained. The arrests were put at 27 by the Brotherhood. In a two-page statement, the Interior Ministry accused the group's members of involvement in "the support, financial aid and propaganda for members and leaders of terrorism." It said the group had attempted to set up secret terrorism." It said the group had attempted to set up secret branches and tried to infiltrate political parties and unions. It also accused its members of contacts with terrorist groups in Egypt and abroad. It did not name any countries, but Egypt in the past has pointed to the fundamentalist regimes in Sudan and Iran as bases

ordan Times

An indean upor Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation



AMMAN TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1995, SHAABAN 23, 1415

ATET ATET USADirect Service Your Express Connection to AT&T Service. Overseas is faster and easy with *Use your ATAT Calling Card or call collect * Dependable AT&T service and low international cates When in the Middle East, dial the number sh SAUDI ARABIA 800-001 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 800-121 0800-011-77 18900 000 * AT&T World Connect St Service '* Limited AT&T World Connect ™ Service For more information, please call the AT&T office in

Volume 19 Number 5826

ders before Feb. 10 in accord-

ance with the provisions of the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty signed Oct. 26, 1994. Major-General Mohammd

Malkawi, commander of the

southern military area, told

Jordan Television that the

two sides would start placing

border markers after remov-

ing obstacles. Maj. Gen.

Malkawi said the Armed

Forces would finish removing

mines in the border area be-

tween Aqaba and the Dead

U.N. meets on NPT

UNITED NATIONS (AFP)

Delegates from over 100

countries opened talks Mon-

day at the United Nations to

prepare the ground for the

global conference reviewing

the nuclear Non-Proliferation

Treaty (NPT). This last

round of discussions, which will last until Friday, is to set

the agenda and procedures

for the conference to be held

in New York from April 17

through May 12. The confer-

ence is to determine if the

treaty, which went into effect in 1970, should be extended

indefinitely or set for several

periods, according to Prvos-

lav Davinic, interim secretary

general of the conference.

Hizbollah: Missing

BEIRUT (AP) - The Hiz-

bollah group has publicly declared for the first time that

all six Israeli soldiers missing

in Lebanon were dead. The

assertion was made by Hiz-

bollah Secretary-General

ing a mass rally in south

Beirut Sunday. Excerpts of

his speech were published by

several Lebanese dailies

Monday. Eulogising a

Hizbollah-linked activist,

who died in an Israeli-run

prison in South Lebanon last

week, Sheikh Nasrallah

flayed human rights concepts

in the United States and the

West. "No one in their world

makes even a mention of the

hundreds of prisoners suffer-ing the ugliest forms of

physical torture in the Khiam

prison," he said. "Yet all

demand the revelation of the

fate of the missing Israeli

soldiers in Lebanon even

though all of them had be-

DUBAI (AFP) — The Emi-

rate of Dubai, a member of

the United Arab Emirates

(UAE), has restored tele-

phone links with Iraq which

were cut after the January-

February 1991 Gulf war.

Officials at the state telecom-

munications authority Etisa-

lat said the decision was

taken unilaterally by the emi-

rate's leaders, and did not affect the other six members

of the UAE. Telephone links

from Baghdad remained cut,

however, according to sub-

Dubai restores

phone links with

come dust."

Israelis dead

Sea before Feb. 10.

Mines being Rabin calls for peace removed in south AMMAN (J.T.) - Jordan on Monday started removing landmines in an area north of with 'total separation' Agaba near its border with Israel to prepare for demarcating the international bor-

Israeli 'domination of Palestinians' must end Arafat under pressure to crack down on anti-peace groups

Combined agency dispatches

ISRAELI PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin pledged Monday to forge ahead with the peace process to achieve a complete separation between Israelis and Palestinians.

"We will continue on the path of peace since there is no alternative," Mr. Rabin said in an address to the nation on Israeli television, a day after Palestinian suicide bombers blew up 18 soldiers and a civilian near the coastal resort of Netanya.

This path must lead us to total separation," he said in his 12-minute address, broadcast by Israel's two television

Addressing militants opposed to the peace process, Mr. Rabin warned: We will continue to fight against you, we will follow you and liquidate you. "No border will stop us. We will win this war."

Mr. Rabin stressed that the

separation of the two communities could not follow the 1949 ceasefire line between Israel and the West Bank, which sliced Jerusalem in

"Of course, the separation will not take place along the pre-1967 borders, because the Jordan River will remain our secure border. Jerusalem will remain unified forever. "We do not want the Israeli people to continue to be exposed to terrorism," Mr. Rabin said.

Earlier, he resisted calls from President Ezer Weizman and right-wing parties to suspend peace negotiations with the Palestinians. He gave his security forces a freer hand to track down extremists determined to wreck the Middle East peace

"I am convinced that the path followed by the government is right: put an end to (Israeli) domination of the Palestinians in the territories,

because they are a separate entity to us on all levels political, religious and national," he said.

"We will arrive at a separa-

tion between us and them because we must break the circle of hate. We will reach peace. It is the only long-term solution and the only way to eradicate

terrorism," Mr. Rabin said. Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres called on Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat to crack down on militants.

Mr. Peres telephoned Mr. Arafat, who heads the Palestinian National Authority (PNA), to urge him to 'act forcefully and publicly" against the militants, a foreign ministry spokeswoman

Mr. Peres stressed that the groups were "a threat to the peace process." Mr. Arafat accepted the

request and pledged to act

woman Ilana Ravid added. Earlier, Mr. Peres demanded that the PNA take "very strong measures against Islamic Jihad and (the Islamic Resistance Movement)

Islamic Jihad said two suicide bombers from the Gaza Strip blew up 18 soldiers and a civilian near Netanya Sunday.

Speaking to parliament's defence and foreign affairs committee, Mr. Peres said the self-rule authority must arrest those who had killed Israelis and move against "mosques and social institutions controlled by the fundamentalists."

Mr. Peres pointed a finger at Iran. "There is no doubt that

Iran finances Islamic Jihad and spreads its ideology." Mr. Peres said. "Israel is faced both by

(Continued on page 7)



His Majesty King Hussein is seen off upon his departure for Oman on Monday by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minis-

ter Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and other senior

King arrives in Muscat

rived Monday for discussions with Sultan Qaboos Ben Saeed on efforts to heal inter-Arab differences stemming from the 1990-91 Gulf crisis that followed the Iraqi inva-

sion of Kuwait. King Hussein was to spend the night in Muscat and then fly out 450 kilometres Tuesday to the central regions of Oman to meet Sultan Qaboos, who is on his annual traditional tour of the pro-

"The King will discuss with Sultan Qaboos the brotherly relations between Jordan and Oman and review regional

MUSCAT (Agencies) — His and international issues of mutual concern," the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said in

> The agency said the two leaders also would discuss "the latest developments in the Arab region.'

Officials in Oman, speaking on condition they not be named, said the two leaders would focus on the Middle East peace process and the border tensions between Yemen and Saudi Arabia, with whom Oman has borders.

Jordan's Ambassador to Muscat, Samir Al Hammud said the two leaders would focus on the Middle East peace process and restoring Arab solidarity.

King Hussein is accompa-

nied on the visit by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem and senior aides. King Hussein and Sultan Qaboos are personal friencis and Jordanian-Omani relations remained on an even

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

keel although Oman's partners in the Gulf Cooperation Council ostracised Jordan when the Kingdom opposed a military solution to end the Gulf crisis over Kuwait. The King visited Oman

several times after the crisis. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan was sworn in as Regent before the King left for Muscat on Monday.

Aftershocks rock Kobe amid furor

KOBE (Agencies) — The fought on to recover from an earthquake that has killed over 5,000 people and shook the foundations of the country's economy.

Schools reopened and roads were jammed with returning workers as the western city began to recover from last Tuesday's quake. But three sharp aftershocks, at 4.2, 4.3 and 4.5 on the Richter scale, shook the battered city, causing buildings to sway and raising fears more damaged buildings

could collapse. "It was very frightening," said a middle-aged woman at a makeshift refugee centre. "The building next door started shaking back and

The latest police figures put the dead at 5,002, with 26,253 people injured and Kobe's mayor estimated damages would exceed 10 trillion yen (\$100 billion) from the quake which measured 7.2 on the open-ended

Richter scale. The head of the government's relief effort said the economic toll would be "huge," nervous selling drove down prices on the Tokyo stock exchange by more than five per cent and a senior central bank official predicted the quake would harm an economy only now emerging from recession.

devastated Japanese port of major negative effects on Kobe was rattled by after- Japan's economic expansion shocks on Monday, but for quite a long time," Tadayo Homma, the Bank of Japan branch manager in nearby Osaka, told a news conference in Tokyo. But he said the bank saw no immediate threat of a financial crisis.

Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama came under steady fire for his government's handling of the relief effort, prompting U.S. Ambassador Walter Mondale to spring to his defence, saying any government would have had trouble coping.

The United States, Britain and other nations sent supplies, experts and technical help to a nation which is the world's biggest aid donor and which still seems in a state of shock at the scale of the disaster.

There were tearful scenes as schools reopened and children learned of the death of classmates in the quake.

Most commuter trains were operating again and the return to work posed new problems for rescue workers as roads became jammed, slowing emergency vehicles. It was taking supplies six hours to reach Kobe from Osaka.

Electric power was restored by late Monday to most surviving homes. Water supplies had been restored to about 40 per cent of Kobe, officials said.

Grozny is relatively calm despite shelling

GROZNY (Agencies) -Russian forces hit the tral streets. Chechen capital Grozny with sporadic shell and mortar fire on Monday, but the town was quiet enough for nervous civilians to leave their shelters to buy bread and collect

People ventured out onto the ruined streets in the centre and in the outskirts of Grozny, where thick mist and low cloud cover meant Russian warplanes were not

Children played on sledges near a dam in a southern Grozny suburb, seemingly oblivious to the fighting that has all but ruined their city. Two people were killed over the weekend at the dam, a major source of water for

Several Chechen fighters were seen in the Grozny area, some in green head-bands carrying Islamic slo-gans. Three Russian prisoners of war were also seen. "If we are released, we don't know what our destiny will be," said one. "Maybe our commanders will send us

"I don't have the will to continue fighting," said another of the dishevelled soldiers.

In Moscow, the Russian government, which sent troops into Chechenya on Dec. 11 to end mainly Muslim Chechenya's three-year independence bid, 'said its forces had captured Grozny's

tram depot and several cen-

The government report the city of illegal armed groups and snipers." There was no independent confirmation of the govern-

ment report, which was published by ITAR-TASS news agency. Both sides have given inaccurate accounts of the fighting in Chechenya. In Mozdok, to the west of

Chechenya, TASS quoted a Russian Defence Ministry spokesman as saying Russian commanders had started preparations to set up military offices which would enforce a curfew, introduce entry permits and confiscate weapons. Russian artillery continued

to rain shells down onto Chechen positions, particularly onto Minutka Square where the secessionist rebels have their headquarters. There were also fierce gun-

battles earlier Monday around Khankala, a neighbourhood in east Grozny where the military airport of Khankala is still in the hands of the Chechens.

Meanwhile, approaching Grozny were a bus and two trucks with banners saying: "Mothers of soldiers. Don't shoot." Inside were Russian mothers on their way to Grozny to plead for the re-. lease of their sons held by the Chechens. Chechen leaders have

promised to release those of about 200 prisoners.

Mubarak: touch with terrorists

NEW YORK (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, denouncing militants who want to overthrow his government as "belly dancers and drummers from the slums," told the New Yorker Magazine the U.S. government is in contact with Muslim Brotherhood "terror-

In an interview released on Sunday, the New Yorker quotes Mr. Mubarak as saying in response to ques-

tion:
"You government is in contact with these terrorists
Wielim Brotherfrom the Muslim Brotherhood. This has all been done very secretly, without our knowledge at first.

"You think you can correct the mistakes that you made in Iran, where you had no contact with the Ayatollah Khomeini and his fanatic groups before they seized

"But I assure you, these groups will never take over this country and they will never be on good terms with the United States. These contacts will never be of any (Continued on page 7)

treatment techniques which

employ the use of activated

carbon filters ensure that

the effluent water contains

minimal amounts of these

materials, by far below the

maximum allowable quan-tities specified by WHO

standards, " says Raja Ge-

deon, director of the

Laboratories and Water

Quality Department at the

Water Authority. Dr. Ge-

deon emphasises the fact

that the water pumped

through the network is per-

fectly potable and the pur-

ity of the water from the

source must be taken for

granted.
"The real problem with

water exists in cesspools, if

present, and corroded

final touches to accords Special to the Jordan Times PLO have signed with Israel.

Jordan and PNA put

AMMAN - Jordan and the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) have agreed to launch a new era of close coordination based on a broad cooperation pact and commitment to a comprehensive peace in the region.

The broad general agreement was expected to be sealed by His Majesty King Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, who is scheduled to arrive in Amman on Wednesday. His Royal Highness Crown

Prince Hassan was expected to head a general meeting of the two delegations today to further discuss bilateral rela-

According to informed sources, the political framework for the cooperation agreement is based on mutual acknowledgement of each sides' agreements with Israel and commitment to achieving comprehensive peace in the region.

The fact that both sides "acknowledge" each other's agreements with Israel implied that the two have dropped any reservations previously voiced against terms of the two separate agree-ments that Jordan and the

The breakthrough was made possible by a mutual understanding that the PLO acknowledges Jordan's custodianship of the Muslim holy sites in Jerusalem as long as Jordan unequivocally recognises and supports Palestinian sovereignty over the

Holy City. After two days of intensive meetings the two sides have reached six protocols that regulate cooperation in the fields of finance and banking, trade, information and culture, education and telecommunication.

The sources said that no major modification was introduced to a draft economic agreement signed last January but never officially rati-

Foreign Minister Abdul Karım Kabariti said the two sides had "drawn up the main elements of a protocol."

The accord would be aimed at "organising future relations between the two sides," Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh

and International Cooperation Nabil Shaath said Monday the meeting between

PNA Minister of Planning

(Continued on page 7)

The water we drink — how safe is it?

By Rima Cortbawi Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The question of how clean and healthy potable water in Jordan is has for many years given rise to some controversial opinions from a vast majority of the population. So questionable is the quality of our drinking water in fact that an increasingly growing number of homeowners are installing special water filters in their kitchens and/or resorting to boiling the water before making it available for

family members to drink. "To eliminate all doubt, we always boil the water and use the filter periodically as an extra measure of precaution," says Nimri Zinati, member of the Environmental Protection Society.

Jordanian officials insist that water, coming straight from the tap, though differing slightly in composition depending on the source, totally complies with World Health Organisation (WHO) standards for drinking water. These standards specify fixed allow-able ranges of each one of the dissolved salts, the pH and the temperature of the water as well as the maximum limits of total dissolved saits (TDS), trace elements like lead, mercury etc. and radioactive materials. The standards also dictate the exclusion of bacteria and parasitic eggs and denote the importance

of taste, odour and colour

as indications or criteria of

"The main problem with

drinking water does not originate from the source. areas, in which deep aquifers' water, being remote from surface pollutants.

What happens as the water flows from the source to the consumer is the worrying part," says Elias Salameh, director of the Water Research and Study Centre of the University of Jordan, Domestic water, according to Dr. Salameh, comes from underground sources in Azraq, Suwaqa, Al Qastal and Wadi Hidan

can be trusted for purity. However, water from the surface source of Deir Alla (East Ghor Canal), being subject to all sorts of environmental and human contaminative actions,

must be treated thoroughly before consumption.

"The presence of organic materials in this water resulting primarily from accumulations of dead plants and algae along with animal and possibly human waste material etc. results in the formation of organic acids, which, upon chlorination (an essential step for killing bacterial contaminants before the pumping of water) produces the carcinogenic chlorinated hydrocarbons," says Dr. Salameh.

But this reaction is enhanced by sunlight and therefore the amount of these chlorinated hydrocarbons is negligible in the winter, according to Dr.

(Continued on page 7) "Even in the summer,

New Era for Eagle Rent A Car



Rand Dia, has joined Eagle Rena A Car as a partner and Director of Sales & Marketing. The move is seen as a key part of Eagle's strategy to strengthen its operations throughout the local and international Arena. With more than 15 years in the car rental business in both the local and international (rost, Rand

brings a wealth of experience to the Eagle Rent A Car team who they just signed a master franchisee agreement for Jordan with EuroDollar International Limited and

" I am excited to be a partner in this company and I will do my utmost to give all my customers the best service. Customer's satisfaction will always be my first priority " Said Mr. Dia. The challenge now is to further strengthen and develop the local system to optimise the opportunities of a growing local marketplace. Furthermore, EuroDollar Jordan will be launching their operation under the system of EuroDollar International and Dollar Rent A Car

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Present

It said tries' shar CAIRO (AFP) — Law students Hanan Al Sayed took her exams in a special room at Cairo University so the invigilator could lift the veil through which only her eyes could be seen to check her

Cairo

students

battle for

wear veil

right to

At 20 years old Hanan wears the "niqab" or a full veil and dreams of becoming a lawver to defend her sisters who want both to conform to Islam and its dress codes and have careers.

But she denies she is a supporter of Muslim militants who are waging a bloody anti-government campaign, saying: "I have nothing to do

with those who carry arms."

The battle over the veil, seen as a symbol of Islamic extremism by education authorities, is set to come to a head at the end of January when five of her fellow students are to protest in court at being told to leave the university campus.

They were accused by the authorities of distributing cassettes of prayers by Islamic clerics.

"It is the first time that a Muslim country is trying to forbid any form of Muslim activism within universities even if it has not got a political connotation and is nothing but a simple expression of said their lawyer Ahmad Ghazali.

"It is unacceptable that the mini-skirt is tolerated in the faculty but not the niqab in this Muslim country," he

That will form the kernel of his defence when the trial opens and he pleads for the five girls to be readmitted to the campus.

Egyptian authorities have been distrustful of the nigab since armed Muslim militants disguised as women donned the all-encompassing garb to be able to move freely around the university.

And their suspicion has increased over the years with the continued campaign laun-ched in March 1992 which has left nearly 600 dead.

Education Minister Hussein Kamal Bahaaddin, a vehement opponent of the militants, told AFP: "The veil and the niqab are used by fundamentalists to show their strength, by making out that every veiled girl is one of their supporters. That's why we have decreed that the wearing of the niqab to school must be limited."

He added that teachers are also forbidden from wearing the full veil. Teaching is about creat-

ing contact and the nigab prevents communication. So we have banned those who refuse to take if off from lessons.

But one of the students expelled from the halls of residence Nabila Fathi, 22, said: "In order to do a public job women have to give up the nigab and men have to give up their beards. So there is no question of becoming a television presenter, a teacher or an actress.'

Hanan added that wearing the nique is often a tough choice.

"I only got to the faculty once a week but it is humiliating to be subjected to a complete search every time I go into the university buildings.

'These frustrating measures are aimed at making us abandon our studies or give up our faith.'



An Israeli mounted policeman charges demonstrators late Sunday as violence erupted during a protest held in

Jerusalem against the Israeli government peace policy, following two suicide bomb attacks (AFP photo)

Islamic Jihad leader: Open war with Israel

GAZA CITY (AP) — The spiritual leader of the Islamic Jihad group which claimed the suicide bombing in which at least 18 Israelis were killed Sunday sat cross-legged on a Straw Mat, watching footage of the attack aftermath on Israel Television.

"It's an open war between us and the Israelis that won't be settled with one operation here and another operation there," Sheikh Abdullah Shami said. "Such attacks just inflict pain on the Israelis and act as a deterrent against their crimes.

For Sheikh Shami and his movement, only the obliteration of Israel will do.

"The solution lies in uprooting the cause of the problem... the state of Israel," said Sheikh Shami, a former history teacher who was deported to Lebanon in December 1992.

Members of Islamic Jihad see destroying Israel as their divine mission and a first step towards their ultimate goal: The establishment of an Islamic empire that would include all Middle Eastern

suicide bombers who killed

19 people and wounded 65 on

Sunday expressed both joy

and fury at the news of their

said two of its "martyrs" car-

ried out the double suicide

bombing which killed 19 peo-

ple near the Israeli seaside

resort of Netanya north of

A statement from the

group named the men as

Anwar Mohammad Attiveh

Sukkar, 23, from a Gaza Čity

refugee camp, and Salah

Abdul Hamid Shaker

Mohammad, 25, from Rafah

Mohammad cried with joy

and sadness at the news, Suk-

kar's father expressed anger. He and other relatives

threw stones and empty

buckets and shouted abuse at

300 Jihad supporters who

turned up at their home on

Sunday evening with one of

the group's leaders, Sheikh

Sukkar's relatives also re-

fused to talk to reporters.

In the Rafah district of

Yibna however, Moham-

mad's brother praised the

attack and his mother

announced the "wedding" of

"Salah, no one can replace

Abdullah Al Shami.

ber son.

While the mother of

town in the self-rule Strip.

Tel Aviv on Sunday.

The hardline Islamic Jihad

sons' death.

They readily admit that they lack the sophisticated arsenal that Israel has. But they boast - in banners. slogans and speeches - that they have a single weapon that would defeat the Israelis:

They say it is faith that turns an activist into a kamikaze willing to blow himself up and fulfil the duty of devout Muslims to die in order to preserve Islam. Their slogans reflect these

their faith.

"A booby-trapped body is our way to heaven." "A mujahid (holy warrior) who can blow himself up with little equipment is much

stronger than a mechanised We explode the heads of the Israelis and knock with them on the gates of para-

Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for an attack in November in which a Palestinian with explosives strapped to his body drove a bicycle into an army post outside the Jewish settlement of Netzar-

Mixed reactions from bombers' families

GAZA CITY (Agencies) — you," she wept, adding "this dren, had worked as a The families of the two is your wedding day." Chairs carpenter.

were set out for mourners.

him looking at pictures of

said a neighbour of the family

who refused to be identified.

but we were surprised - he

had no obvious political

activity," said Mohammad's

spent his time at the mosque,

playing sports at a club and

working at a physiotherapy

Many people present said they had last seen Moham-

mad on Saturday night, and

had heard that a car had

come to fetch him at mid-

"This is an honour for us,

even though we are sad at

learning the news," said his

poured from the Suckar

house, as loudspeakers in

Gaza City blared out a claim

of responsibility by Islamic

and respected by all of us," a neighbour told reporters,

who were not invited to enter

the house. "He did to the

Israelis what they are doing

The neighbour said Suk-

kar, married with no chil-

"He was a very nice man

Screams, cries and wailing

sister Om Alaa.

"He was religious. He

brother Ahmad.

centre.

"This is an honourable act,

martyrs, praising their acts,

"Just a week ago, I saw

im in the Gaza Strip. The blast killed three Israeli officers and wounded 11, including several Palestinians.

The group said the attack was in reprisal for the carbombing death on Hani Abed, a professional chemist and a leader in the military wing of Islamic Jihad. The assassination was reportedly carried out by Israeli commandos after indications that Abed planned a carbomb attack in Israel.

Islamic Jihad activists number in the hundreds in Gaza but keep their membership secret even from their fami-

Palestinian sources say the group receives \$3 million a year from Iran. Their weapons are believed to be smuggled through Gaza Port, a tiny one-pier harbour, or from neighbouring Egypt.
The Islamic Jihad Move-

ment was formed in the late 1970s by activists who left Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fateh faction and the Egyptbased Muslim Brotherhood. They believed the leaders of those movements had be-

A spokesman for Islamic

Jihad said Sukkar had spent

a year in an Israeii jail in 1989

for being a member of the

The Popular Front for the

Liberation of Palestine led by

George Habash announced:

Israeli army officers is per-

fectly justified and is the way

Levanese groups put their

guerrillas on maximum alert

Monday, fearing reprisals for

Hizbollah ordered its fight-

ers throughout South Leba-

non to standby for possible

Israeli retaliation for Sun-

day's carnage, sources said.

structed to refrain from radio

contacts and avoid unneces-

sary movements, especially

travel in motorcades in the

south and in other stron-

gholds in the eastern Bekaa

The Israeli army will use

more sophisticated methods

to hunt those responsible for

anti-Israeli attacks, army

chief Amnon Shahak vowed

fought tirelessly and the

security forces are more than

ever determined to hunt the

murderers and their leaders."

general Shahak said,

"This is a war that must be

Hizbollah leaders were in-

the suicide bombing.

to put an end to occupation.

A military operation against

group.

Valley.

Monday.

come too conciliatory towards Israel. Its members were influenced by the Islamic revolu-

tion of the late Avatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, who overthrew the Shah of Iran in 1979 and set up his own Islamic state. Two of its founders were

Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Oudeh, also considered a spiritual guide of the group, and Fathi Shaqaqi, the poli-tical leader of the group who is from the refugee camp of Both men were expelled by

the Israelis to Lebanon in 1988. They then moved to Syria where they set up

In a two-page statement faxed to the AP office in Damascus, Islamic Jihad's military wing said its militants carried out the "heroic op-

"The knights of Islam will penetrate the barriers of illusion... as well as the enemy's positions in order to reach the depth of Palestine," the group said.

signs contract

LONDON - General

Khaled Bin Sultan of Saudi

Arabia commander of the

joint forces and the theatre of

operations during the Gulf

war, has signed a contract

with Harper Collins pub-

lishing company for the En-

glish language rights of his

forthcoming book, Desert

Warrior, General Khaled was

co-commander, with U.S.

General Norman Schwarz-

kopf, of the allied coalition

that drove Iraqi forces out of

All proceeds from the

book will go to the Bosnian Children's Fund, a charity to

help children orphaned by

the war in the former Yugos-

lavia, a spokesman for the

Desert Warrior is a com-

pelling war story, as well as a

rich mixture of autobiogra-

phy and Saudi Arabian his-

tory, the spokesman said. It

is the first book ever written

for an international audience

by a member of the Saudi

royal family. It is also the first to provide a comprehen-

sive account of the role of all

the forces in the coalition. the

book makes some challeng-

ing recommendations on the

security of the strategically

criticial Gulf region, accord-

ing to the spokesman.

Kuwait.

general said.

sides to reduce tension NICOSIA (AP) - Through to keep the presidential mes-Prince Khaled

an envoy. President Clinton asked the rival Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders Monday to explore ways to to reporters. reducing military tension on

Mr. Clinton's request was conveyed in separate letters carried by presidential envoy Richard I. Beattie, who started a round of shuttle diplomacy to promote a settlement of the Cyprus probiem.

Following a meeting with President Glafcos Clerides, the Greek Cypriot leader. Mr. Beattie crossed into the Turkish-occupied sector of the split capital. Nicosia, for talks with Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash.

He told reporters he had "useful" talks with both leaders, refusing to elaborate. His objective is to resolve the deadlock in the U.N.sponsored Clerides-Denktash talks for the reunification of the island, and by extension improve relations between North Atlantic Treaty Organistion (NATO) allies Greece and Turkey, soured

by the Cyprus conflict. Mr. Beattie is to have two more separate meetings with the Cypriot leaders Tuesday before flying to Athens and

Ankara. He delivered letters from Mr. Clinton to both Cypriot leaders. Cyprus government spokesman Yannakis Cassoulides said the American side had asked Mr. Clerides

sage secret. Mr. Denktash, however, distributed copies of his letter

In this Mr. Clinton said he convey my resolve that the United States government will continue to assist in finding a solution to the division of Cyprus."

He added that "the two communities on the island need to work together to achieve on overall solution to the Cyprus problem. The United States would like to see a bizonal, bicommunal federation in which the two political communities can exist as a single state."

Mr. Clinton also urged the two sides to proceed with the implementation of U.N.proposed confidence building measures, much as reopening Nicosia international airport or allowing thousands of Greek Cypriot refugees to return to their homes in a southern suburb of the Turkish-occupied eastern port city of Famagusta.

"In addition, I encourage you to explore creative ways by which military tensions might be reduced," Mr. Clinton wrote. "I am sending a similar request to the Greek Cypriot side."

Cyprus has been partitioned unofficially since July 1974, when Turkey invaded and occupied the northern third of the island in the wake of a short-lived coup by supporters of union with Greece.

The operation entailed the Dr. Akasheh planted a device called a "cardiomyo stimulator" in the muscles of the abdomen to be activated in two weeks from now in

wrapping it around the heart order to help the heart. in order to assist the heart's "We also inserted an intra functioning, Dr. Nsheiwat aortic balloon to ensure there will be no heart failure," said He said cardiologists resort Dr. Nsheiwat, who added to this procedure when faced that this insertion will last with cardiomyopathy (weakness of the heart muscle). In only for a few days.

The patient, Ahmad Mohammad Qasem, 31, from Ailoun Governorate, was expected to leave the ICU in

Thousands attend Bazargan funeral

Dr. Nsheiwat said he and

cases of severe car-

diomyopathy, cardiologists conduct heart transplants,

Dr. Nsheiwat said.

Jordan's first cardiomyoplasty

surgery at Al Hussein Medical Centre

removal of the latissimus dor-

si muscle which is close to the

chest and abdomen and

told the Jordan Times.

TEHRAN (AFP) — More than 30,000 mourners on Monday attended the funeral of former Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan who headed the first government after the 1979 Islamic revolution and was a key opposition figure for more than 50 years.

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Two heart

surgeons at the King Hussein

Medical Centre have success-

fully carried out a cardiomyo-

plasty operation, the first of

its kind in Jordan and the

second in the Middle East.

The five-hour operation

was conducted by Ziyad

Akasheh and Husam

Nsheiwat. The patient was in

the intensive care unit on

Monday but was in satisfac-

Friends and supporters gathered in front of Husseinieh-Ershad mosque in northern Tehran to pay their last respects to Bazar-gan, who died of a heart failure in a Swiss hospital on Friday at the age of 88.

His body, wrapped in a rug and placed in a modest wooden coffin covered with the Iranian flag, was brought out of the mosque after prayers were read and carried through the streets in northem Tehran.

Many intellectuals and prominent political figures, including several members of parliament and the vicepresident for parliamentary and legal affairs, Attaollah Mohajerani, were also pre-

Bazargan had been among the few Iranians who dared to openly criticise the policies of the leader of the Islamic revolution Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, especially his refusal to end the 1980-1988

war with Iraq.
To avoid provoking the au-

Clinton asks Cypriot

thorities, the organisers had urged the participants not to chant political slogans and to stick to religious chantings. But at the end of the ceremony, groups of university students shouted "Bazargan,

Mosadegh is mourning to-They were referring to Mohammad Mosadegh, who was a prime minister in the early 1950s and remains a

your way will continue" and

symbol of nationalism and democracy in Iran. An Islamic democrat who fought dictatorship for almost

half a century, Bazargan spent a total of six years in prison for his opposition to the Shah. He headed the first govern-ment after the 1979 Islamic revolution, but fell out with

the Islamic leadership after failing to reconcile his team of technocrats with the Shiite Muslim clergy, headed by Khomeini. Bazargan resigned nine months later after students

close to Khomeini took 53 hostages at the U.S. embassy in Tehran. He opposed the hostage-taking but could not prevent it. After a few months of si-

lence, Bazargan returned to the political scene strongly criticising the Iranian leaders whom he accused of "exces-

Bazargan headed the Liberation Movement of Iran (LMI), one of the country's few tolerated opposition groups which he founded in 1961. The group accepts the Islamic republic's constitution and continues to advocate change rather than the overthrow of the regime.

But in recent years he had given up most of his political activities and lived in retirement at his home in east Tehran. He suffered a heart attack

early last month but doctors ruled out surgery in Iran because of his age, and his family said he would travel

He collapsed shortly after arriving at Zurich airport on his way to the United States for medical treatment, and died later in a hospital in the His body was taken to the

holy city of Qom, in central Iran, to be interred in his family's burial place, the official Iranian news agency. IRNA said. Iranian official media have:

provided a relatively broad. coverage of Bazargan's death, and the parliament's deputy speaker. Hassan. Ruhani, and the council of ministers have sent condolence messages.

3,600 female circumcisions. a day in Egypt

CAIRO (AFP) - Around 3.600 women are circumcised every day, the Egyptian Organisation of Human is (EOHR) said Monda as it prepared a campaign against female genital mutila-

Less than half the operations to remove all or part of the clitoris are carried out by doctors while the rest are done by "barbers or nonqualified people," the watchdog said in a report.

Ninety-five per cent of girls under the age of 16 in rural areas have been circumcised. while 73 per cent of girls in Cairo have undergone the operation, the report said. Egypt has no laws against cirumcision as long as it is carried out by a doctor.

To mobilise public opinion the EOHR published a New Year card with the slogan "Together against female genital mutilation." The card showed the out-

line of a young girl with pigtails behind rows of scalpels and scissors in the form of prison bars.

"Circumcision, which is the mutilation and deformation of women's genital organs, is a crime which affects the human body and its health," the statement said.

"Circumcision also contravenes the treaty for the abolition of all forms of segregation of women," statement added.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19 PROGRAMME TWO ... Cocottes Minutes Oue Le Mielluer Gagne Embarquement Porte I 17:30 . Le Monde Fantastiques Des En-..... News in French Practical Guide to the Universe Varities You Bet Your Life Road to Avonica Equinox News in English 22-20 The Piglet Files PRAYER TIMES

..... Fajr (Soorise) Duha CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Assemblies of God Church. Tel. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.

De in Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terrasancta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541 Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331. ian Orthodox Church Tel. Armenia 775261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church Tel. Evangelical Lutheran Church Tcl: 824328. 652526. Corrus-speaking Evangelical
Congregation Tel. 684195
The Church of Jesus Christ of
Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932
Church of Nazarene Tel. 675691. The Evangelical Local Church in Tel. 811295.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Depart-Sunny and warm weather conditions will prevail with a chance of showers in the southern and eastern parts of the Kingdom. Winds will be southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, skies will be partly cloudy with a chance of showers. Winds will be northerly moderate and seas Min./Max. temp.

Deserts 1, 17 Jordan Valley 8, 21 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 14, Aqaba 20, Humidin readings: Amman 29 per cent.

> USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

Agaba 43 per cent.

AMMAN: Dr. Bahjat Bader ... Arafat Al Ashbab biCSiC Firas pharmacy 6619; Al Salam pharmacy acoub pharmacy 637660 623672 Shmeisani pharmacy Nairouih pharmacy Nailb pharmacy 847633

Dr. Akram Al Momani 248745 Alquds pharmacy [---]

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 537111 Civil Defence Department | 561111 Civil Defence Immediate Resenc 630341 Croil Defense Emergency 19 Researc Police 192, 62777 Highway Police Traffic Police Public Scendin Department Price Complaints Water and Sowerage Amman Municipality Complaints Telephone Information (directory assistance) Overseas Calls 910230 Repairs 623101 Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Water Authority Jordan Electricals Authority 815615 Water Authority 680100 Electric Power Company 636381 RJ Flight Information 68-53200 Queen Alia Intl Airport 18-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Hussen Medical Centre 813813/32 Khahdi Maternity, J. Amn 644281.6 Akilch Maternity, J. Amn. 642441.2

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362 Malhas J Amman 636140 Palestine, Shmeisani 644171/4 Shmeisani Hospital 669131 Al-Ahli, Abdali 68/16/6 Italian, Al-Muhajreen ... 77/101/3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 775111/20 Army, Marka 891611/15 Queen Ali: Hespital 686100 Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA: Zarqa Govt Hospital (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732 Al Hikma Modern Hespital (09)990990

Proncess Hayo Hospital (03)5[4]]] FOR THE TRAVELLER

> **QUEEN ALIA** INTERNATIONAL **AIRPORT**

Reval Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200. 5, where it should always be veri-ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ)

This information is supplied by

(Terminal 1) 64:60 Jakurta, Kuala Lempur (RJ) 67:38 Damascus (RJ) 09-15

...... Aqaba (RJ) ... Abu Dhabi (RJ) 99:55 Abu Dhabi (RJ) 99:55 Muscat, Dubai (RJ) 19:15 Doha, Bahram (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal 2) 14:25 Rome (AZ)

Aden (DY)

..... Amsterdam (KL DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

18:15 Amsterdam, New York (RJ) 11:00 Montreal, Toronto (RJ) 11:36 Geneva, Madrid (RJ) 11:55 Paris, Brussels (RJ) 12:00 Vicana, Frankfurt (RJ) 20:05 Lamaca (RI) 20:39 Leddah (RI) 21:25 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RI)

Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Larnaca, Rome (AZ)
Vienna (OS) HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amusan ... 8:00 a.m. every Monday Arr. Damssens 5:00 p.m. every Monday Dep. Damssens 7:30 a.m. every Sanday Arr. Amusan ... 5:00 p.m. every Sanday

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Banana (Mukammar) 620 Banana (Mukammar) 200 / 100 Cabbage 250/140 130/70 Cauliflower Cucumbers (large) Cucumbers (small) 200 / 100 420 / 288 320/ 280

270 / 188 300 / 180 Grape Fruit Marrow (large) Marrow (small) 320 / 200 **240/300** 320/ 240 700/500 Onion (dry) ... Orange Pepper (hot) .. 600 / 400 420 / 290 320 / 250 180 / 100 180 / 100 850 / 400 350/158 Radish Spinach String Beans Tomato

🖟 Japan's ear necrot - (.T.) AMU Inday shipped a plane-load medical supplies and intels to help victims of

& Royal Highness Prince Abdulia goff the crew of a Jordanian plan

armed Forces

Home I

devastating cartinguise ich bit Japan last week. The shipment a gift from & Jordanian Armed Forces the people of Japan. will deeply appreciated by the hpanese people, said ganese Ambassador to Joryuji Tkeda. Seing the crew off at Mar-

Prector General of the Housing nt Department (HUD lyssat (in the middle) delivers t adress, on behalf of Public V

experts to d human settle

By Sa'eda Kilani special to the Jordan Times

MMAN - Arab experts and officials Monday stressed he need for a draft declaraon on human settlements incorporate Arab takes and heritage. We should come up with

that Arab declaration on inman settlements that ould take into consideration Arabic and Islamic values in all domains, said Abdul Razzaq Ensour, minister of Piblic works and housing at the opening of the regional spents preparatory meeting or the United Nations meeton human settlements. should preserve the achitectural and cultural lentage of the Arab nation."

, In his speech, delivered by Yusuf Hiyasat, director eneral of Housing and rban Development, Mr. Ensour emphasised the need come up with practical and solutions to urbanisaion problems such as poverunemployment and re-

The declaration should the deciaration should be up guidelines of the batch for comprehensive dedopment especially in the mischal field. Mr. Hiyasat st

More than 60 experts and the

The following listings are compiled the daily Arabic press. Realisted time and place with t

THIRD JORDANIAN E Two plays (in Arabic) entition of the Goat Island" respective at the Royal Cultural

ABC News Highlights and M he American Centre at 5:0 al Centre

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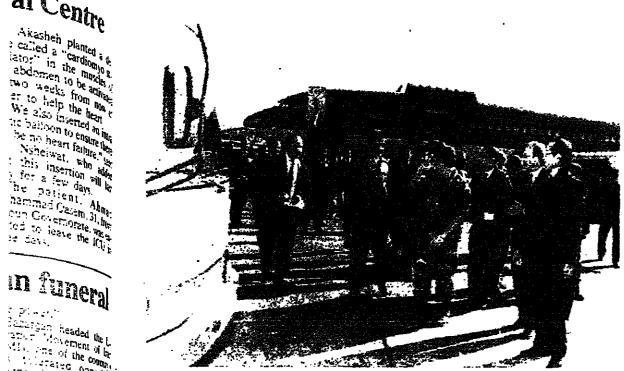
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IJAE RAILWAY

MARKET PRICES

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ा ता का न तारदालक्ष्य न तारदालक्ष्य



His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Monday relief supplies to the victims of the earthquake sees off the crew of a Jordanian plane carrying which hit Japan last week (Petra photo)

Armed Forces ships medical supplies to Japan's earthquake victims

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Monday shipped a plane-load of medical supplies and blankets to help victims of the department of the the devastating earthquake which hit Japan last week.

The shipment, a gift from the Jordanian Armed Forces to the people of Japan, will be deeply appreciated by the Japanese people, said Japanese Ambassador to Jor-

dan Yuji Ikeda. Seeing the crew off at Marka airport with His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ben Hussein, Mr. Ikeda thanked the Jordanian government on behalf of Tokyo, and said that Japan would not forget this noble gesture coming from Jordan which was one of a few countries that has offered real assistance to

country. Mr. Ikeda thanked Prince Abdullah and Royal Jorda- Reuter reported.

the earthquake victims in his

nian for arranging for the transport of the shipment to

Japan. RJ President Nader Dahabi was among the Jordanian officials and Japanese embassy staff to see the flight offf at the airport.

Japan said on Monday at least 5,002 people were killed, 26,253 injured and 125 people were still unaccounted for after Jan. 17 earthquake,



ıd Urb

er Abdul Razzs Development Department (HUDD) Yousef the opening of a regional experts preparatory Hiyasat (in the middle) delivers the opening address, on behalf of Public Works and human settlements (Petra photo)

Experts to draft declaration on human settlements in ArabWorld

By Sa'eda Kilani Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN — Arab experts and officials Monday stressed the need for a draft declaration on human settlements that would incorporate Arab values and heritage.

"We should come up with a draft Arab declaration on human settlements that would take into consideration Arabic and Islamic values in all domains," said Abdul Razzag Ensour, minister of public works and housing at the opening of the regional experts preparatory meeting for the United Nations meeting on human settlements. "It should preserve the architectural and cultural heritage of the Arab nation,"

said Mr. Ensour. In his speech, delivered by Yusuf Hiyasat, director general of Housing and Urban Development, Mr. Ensour emphasised the need to come up with practical and radical solutions to urbanisation problems such as poverty, unemployment and re-

lated social problems. "The declaration should draw up guidelines of the march for comprehensive development especially in the social field," Mr. Hiyasat

More than 60 experts and

U.N. representatives from the Arab World attended the first day of the conference which was held at Forte Grand Hotel. The Habitat II conference is organised by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in cooperation with United Nations Centre for Human Settle-

Arab Ministers of Housing and Construction Council of the Arab League. Ahmad Noah, a representative of the Arab League, said the meeting is of paramount importance be-

ments (Habitat) and the

cause it will stress the Arab point of view. "We should highlight the specificities of the Arab World especially in terms of our rich heritage in architecture, planning and construction. We are required to pinpoint these specifics not on biased and extremist bases, but because we

should be taking from our heritage what is best and improve it," Mr. Noah said. According to Thuraya Obaid, ESCWA's deputy executive director, centralisation in the decision-making process is one of the major problems that leads to the marginalisation of local institutions and deprives the people of effective participa-tion. Mostly affected, she said, are the rural settle-

Ms. Obaid hoped the meeting will come up with a clear Arab stand vis-a-vis improving and enhancing the draft Arab declaration for human settlements.

"It is a right for every individual to have a suitable habitat," Ms. Obaid said. "Secure and sanitary settlements are a humanitarian and social necessity.

But Ali Majid Shbou, representative of the U.N. secretary general to the Habitat conference, said there are no easy and fast solutions to urban problems, particularly human settlements, "but this meeting will be another effort to formulate new recommendations towards a univer-

sal plan of action," he said. Over the next four days, participants will discuss policies and programmes of human settlements in the Arab World; urbanisation in the Arab World; and priorities and realities of Arab urba-

A draft Arab declaration on human settlements wili be drawn at the end of the conference to be later submitted to the third Arab preparatory meeting. The draft will be finally endorsed by the Arab Ministers for Housing and Construction Council.

to donor nations AMMAN (Petra) - A con- nian demands that Arab ference of representatives of Jerusalem be the capital of

Arab countries hosting refugees which convened in Cairo last week recommended that a Jordanian report submitted to the meetings be distributed to donor governments, according to Director of the Palestinian Affairs Department Asem

Ghosheh Monday. Speaking upon his return to Amman from the meeting, Mr. Ghosheh said the Jordanian report covered the developments and the current situation in the occupied Arab lands, Israel's practices, the situation in Jerusalem, Israel's Judaisation plans, social and economic conditions in the occupied Arab territories and Jewish immigration as well as Israel's seizure of

Palestinian water resources. Delegates from Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Palestine and the Arab League discussed ways to help the Palestinian struggle for freedom and the achievement of a comprehensive and just peace in the region, said Mr. Ghosheh.

During the week-long meetings, he said, the delegates also discussed Palesti-

trade, prospects for joint ventures opened on Sunday by Minis-AMMAN — Jordanian and ter of Trade and Industry Ali

Abul Ragheb.

During the three-day event, Jordanian businessmen and officials are expected to get a firsthand look at trade accords such as the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP), the Jordan-European Union trade pro-tocol and other trade laws and familiarise themselves with how to make the best

advantage. The Italian government is financing the seminar as part of Rome's concerted approach to consolidating its trade and economic links with the Mediterranean countries. Jordan is considered a Mediterranean coun-

use of the accord to their

try under EU parameters. In an address to the seminar on Sunday, Ali Dajani, an advisor at the Amman Chamber of Industry, noted

ment (UNCTAD), was that "although Jordan has no foothold on shores around the Mediterranean Sea, it is closely and inseparably associated with Palestine, which has a place on the

Jordanian, Italian businessmen to review

shores of the common sea." Mr. Dajani said Italy was the first country to import Jordanian phosphates and that the first international fair that the Kingdom took part in was Italy's Bari Fair. Jordan's imports from Italy

in the first nine months of 1994 amounted to \$151 million compared with \$300 million in 1993 and \$150 million in 1992, while the Kingdom's exports to Italy during the same period were \$10 million, \$16 million and \$4.5 million respectively.

Despite the small volume,

Italy is the largest importer of Jordanian products among the European Union countries, Mr. Dajani noted.

However, he said, in view of the serious imbalance in trade, Italy should make serious efforts to increase its imports from Jordan and also help the Kingdom market its products elsewhere.

"There should be no escape from allowing Jordan more favourable facilities, and Italy should extend a helping hand towards effective amendments," to the trade agreements, he said.

Mr. Dajani also called on the European Union as a whole to accept inputs/raw materials from Arab countries, particularly members of the Arab Common Market which includes Jordan, and qualify Jordanian manufacturers to "gain exemptions whether under the GSP system or the EU-Jordan bilateral agreement."

During its second day, Monday, the seminar was addressed by H.J. Rosenbaum, a senior official of the U.S. Department of Trade, whose central theme was the

technical aspects of preferential trade accords and how Jordan should seek to take advantage of such agree-

Instead of discussing past problems, the outlook of both sides should be aimed at increasing Jordanian exports to the U.S. under the proffered preferential treatment,

he told the gathering. Also addressing the seminar on Monday was Stefano Inama and Terjie Ujje, both senior experts on international preferential trade at the UNCTAD.

Tuesday's session will focus more specifically on Jordanian-Italian trade relations and technical aspects of trade accords. The roundtable, which will be held in the afternoon, will group Jordanian and Italian businessmen who "will discuss concrete proposals and possibilities of joint ventures." said Mr. Da-

Mideast-Europe tourism workshop addresses industry growth, peace

By Cathy King Special to the Jordan Times

By a Jordan Times

Staff Reporter

Italian businessmen meet to-

day for a close review of

expanding trade and pros-

pects for setting up joint ven-

tures as part of a new

approach by the European

Union (EU) to increase eco-

nomic cooperation with

A team led by Giorgio

Marini, president of the

Rome-based Arab-Italian

Chamber of Commerce, and

comprising 35 Italian

businessmen, arrived here

Monday for the roundtable

conference, which will be held on the fringes of a semi-

nar at the Amman Chamber

of Industry on how Jordan

could take advantage of in-

ternational trade agreements.

The seminar, organised by the Amman Chamber of In-

dustry in cooperation with the United Nations Confer-

ence on Trade and Develop-

Mediterranean countries.

tourism in the region in corwere themes addressed at a tourism workshop Monday, a Ministry of Tourism official

The three-day workshop, entitled "Middle East-Europe Tourism Workshop." is attended by tour operators from 10 European countries and government members. Ministry of Tourism officials, hoteliers, airline representatives and ground handlers from Jordan, Egypt, Israel and the Palestine National Authority (PNA).

The workshop was opened in Agaba yesterday with an address delivered by Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Abdul liah Al Khatib.

Mr. Khatib emphasised the need for Jordan's public and nomic development. private tourism sectors to heed the workshop's recom-

Khatib said, originate from tail.

Europe.
A Ministry of Tourism official in Aqaba told the Jordan AMMAN — The growth of Times that the four regional parties gave a "destination relation with prevailing peace presentation" of their respecand increased "global traffic" tive countries. The presentations included videos showing arrival points and touristic sites, she said.

They also addressed a plan for development, highlighting statistics which illustrated each of the countries' capacity to accommodate tourists and services available, the official added.

The workshop aims at focusing on European perceptions of the Middle East "product" and the competitive positioning of the region in global markets.

It intends to develop a practical dialogue and key recommendations for action which will contribute to the increase of cooperation in Middle East tourism and eco-

The workshop, which ends Wednesday, will host plenary mendations so as to gain a sessions presented by travel better understanding of industry representatives from European tourism market ex- the region and Europe. It will also involve group sessions to Sixty per cent of interna-tional arrivals in Jordan, Mr. discuss specific topics in de-

the Palestine state and re-

quests to the United Nations

and the world community to

help implement U.N. resolu-

tions and stop Israeli

attempts at changing the

character of the Arab city.

cussed Israeli settlement

programmes, stressing that

these plans would ruin peace

efforts and cause instability.

They urged the co-sponsors

of the peace process to exert

pressure on Israel to halt the

programmes, according to Mr. Ghosheh.

appeal to the world commun-

ity to plug the deficit in the United Nations Relief and

Works Agency (UNRWA) budget so that the agency can

continue to provide social

and educational assistance to

Meanwhile Fuad Al Sha-

wa, deputy director of social services at UNRWA, Mon-day said Palestinian refugees

registered in Jordan currently

ment has carried out several

social programmes and ex-

He added that his depart-

number 1,205,493.

ecuted 70 projects.

the refugees, he added.

The conference issued an

The participants also dis-

Refugee host countries to

distribute Jordan's report

city and said plans are under way to open a 100-bed hospital in the future after which laboratories and a pharmacy. the 30-bed facility will be The hospital transformed into a health serve as an extension to the Al Bashir Hospital, has six Health Minister Aref specialists and five resident

Batayneh opened the premises saying the hospital was and technicians.

Health Ministry Monday

opened a 30-bed hospital at

Sahab close to the industrial

ing it (Petra photo)

AMMAN (Petra) - The designed first for maternity services and emergency cases. He said the new facility comprises operation theatres, maternity wards and emergency units as well as

Health Minister Aref Bataineh Monday in spects work at Sahah Hospital after inaugurat-

Ministry opens hospital in Sahab

doctors, in addition to nurses

Set up on a 2,100 square metres of land, the hospital will serve east Amman. Sahab town and Sahab Industrial City, according to Dr. Batayneh.

pervise the services at the Sahab medical facility and will provide it with its needs. said the minister at the inauguration ceremony.

Fall victim dies in hospital CDD releases 1994 casualty figures

By Rana Husseini

Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN — A 35-year-old man who was listed in critical condition at Al Bashir Hospital on Saturday after falling from building under construction in Khalda died Monday, police reports

According to the report, another worker, who was present during the acci-dent, told police that Ayiad Rashed was placing a scaffolding from the fourth floor of the building when ne accidentally fell. A Civil Defence Depart-

ment (CDD) official told the Jordan Times Monday that a CDD rescue unit took Mr. Rashed to the hospital where he was diagnosed as having fractured his spine. The police report said

that an autopsy will be performed to determine the exact cause of death. Police said they are investigating the incident.

This is the second work related death to be reported in the Kingdom since the beginning of this vear.

On Jan. 17, a 27-year-old

Egyptian worker died of electrocution while work-ing at Al Hassa phosphate mines. The victim pulled an electric cable and received 6,600 volts of electricity.

Last year, 23 people were killed and 13,695 were injured in workrelated accidents, according to recent statistic released by the Social Security Corporation (SSC).

The SSC showed that nearly 28 per cent of the total number of injuries occurred in the engineering, metal and electrical industries, and 17 per cent in the construction sector.

Moreover, the numbers indicated that about 60 per cent of the injuries were to the workers' limbs, particularly the hands and legs. The statistics also indi-

cated that workshops and factories lack safety and protective equipment for their employees and proper safety instructions for machinery and equipment used by their staff. The CDD Monday said

that 825 people died during 1994 in the 29,774 incidents the CDD responded to. According to statistics released by the department 422 of the reported deaths were of natural causes.

According to Captain Farid Share', director of public relations at the CDD, first-aid related incidents registered the highest numbers of casualties with 718 deaths.

Capt. Share' said 81 individuals died in rescue operations and 26 were killed in fire-related incidents.

The CDD figures indicated that the months of November and December witnessed the highest number of reported casualties with 100 and 133 reported deaths. The data however did not explain why the numbers were almost double the numbers of previous months.

Meanwhile, recent statistics released by the Traffic Department indicated that 443 people were killed in the Kingdom in 26,837 road accidents which also injured 12,516.

According to Capt. Share', the CDD will hold a press conference sometime next week to give further details regarding the 1994 CDD casualty fi-

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

THIRD JORDANIAN DRAMA FESTIVAL

Two plays (in Arabic) entitled "Coloured Rain" and "The Goat Island" respectively at 7:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre.

ABC News Highlights and McNeil-Lehrer News Hour at the American Centre at 5:00 p.m.

DIALOGUE

☆ Dialogue with Lebanese artist Amin Al Basha at Darat Al Funun at 6:00 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

- ☆ Exhibition of Children's works (from Haya Centre)
- drawing and painting classes) at Goethe Institute. **★ Exhibition of works by Iraqi artist Fakhir Muham** mad at the Ab'ad Art Gallery.
- ★ Exhibition of "Arab Contemporary Art" at Mona Saudi studio. Abdonn village (Tel. 829700).
- * Exhibition of the works of Lebanese artist Amin Al Basha at Darat Al Funun. Also showing another
- exhibition entitled "Phase II-Doors and Windows" by Jordanian artist Ghada Dahdaleh and works by contemporary Arab artists.
- ★ Exhibition of works by Spanish artist Covadonga Sarragua at Instituto Cervantes (the Spanish Cultural Centre).
- ★ Educational works depicting the life of "Voltaire" at the French Cultural Centre.
- ☆ Exhibition of works by Hala Mahayni at the Petra International Hotel in Aqaba.
- ★ Exhibition of abstract art by Zakaria Barakat at the Housing Bank Gallery.

Save water..Every drop counts!

EMBASSY OF INDIA AMMAN REPUBLIC DAY OF INDIA

On the occasion of the Republic Day of India, a flag hoisting ceremony will be held on Thursday, January 26, 1995 at 10 a.m. at the premises of the Embassy of India, First Circle Jabal Amman (Opp.

Malhas Hospital). All Indians with their family members are cordially invited to attend the function.

PARIS (

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BELIIN has un 70,000 c Xinhua growini hampe plannir More decepti prtion

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Abdul Rahman Biswas, in a

New Year's address to the

Bangladeshi parliament

Monday, issued an urgent

appeal to political groups to

work together to strengthen

the country's troubled demo-

In an 80-minute address to

chamber where nearly half

of the seats remained empty

in the 10th month of an

was said: "Lappeal to all.

irrespective of their party or

ideological beliefs, to cooper-

Referring to the "current political situation." Mr. Bis-

was said sincerity and sacri-

fice by all were the tools for

strengthening democracy,

which the Bangladeshi

electorate won only four

years ago.
"The parliament will be

the centre of solving all national problems. .. Come,

let us sit at the same table for

the welfare of the people,"

The opposition's 147 MPs

resigned en masse 26 days

ago after launching a boycott

of parliament in March. At

the weekend, they launched a

fresh action in their cam-

paign, planning a siege of

state-run television and radio

Monday to demand their

autonomy, and announcing

general strikes for Tuesday

and Wednesday, to protest

path of unity."

he said.

DOYCOπ, Mr. n

We have to follow the

leadership feud in India's ruling Congress (I) party deepened Monday after a fresh salvo by Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's arch foe virtually killed off any

possibility of a patch-up. Former Minister Arjun Singh, who quit Mr. Rao's cabinet Dec. 24, accused the premier Sunday of "running away from realities" and of failing to build up the Congress, of which Mr. Rao is the president.

Arjun Singh, a rival for the premiership, told a public rally in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh that Rao had not learned a lesson from the December election rout of the Congress in two key southern states.

"The party which ignores the ground realities will be consigned to the dustbin of history," he said in an indirect denunciation of Mr. Rao during a heatic threehour the to the town of Banda.

It was Arjun Singh's first foray since quitting the government into the politicallysensitive sprawling Hindispeaking belt, where the

rival steps up attack Congress has become margi-

Italian actress Sophia Loren holds up her annual Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills.

Golden award as she poses with long-time Loren won the Cecil B. DeMille award for her

Bangladesh president calls

inflation and press for politic-

Prime Minister Khaleda

A dissident MP in her rul-

Zia, wearing a purple sari,

listened to the president but

ing Bangladesh Nationalist

Party (BNP), Nurul Islam

Moni, and a defector from

the opposition Jatiya Party (JP), Mahmudul Hasan, were

High Court order last week

to Speaker Sheikh Razzak

Ali to suspend any action on

the resignations until Jan. 27

and a challenge to the opposi-tion to explain why the mass

resignation should not be de-

clared illegal.
Intense behind-the-scene

efforts continued until the

last moments before Mon-

day's session to hammer out a

settlement that would end the

But Ms. Zia's foes -

Sheikh Hasina Wajed's

opposition Awami League

(AL), deposed President

Hussain Mohammad

Ershad's Jatiya Party and the

Muslim fundamentalist

Jamaat-2-Islami party - re-

mained firm on their resigna-

tion from the 330-seat assem-

organising secretary, reacting

to Mr. Biswas' speech, said

the president's address only

reflected the government's

position and the BNP had not

Indian prime minister's

y. Mohammad Nasim, AL's

damaging standoff.

did not offer a response.

friend Charlton Heston January 21 at the career achievements (AFP photo)

for stronger democracy

al change.

nalised in recent years. Mr. Singh resigned from the cabinet after the Con-gress was crushed in the December state elections and has lashed out at Mr. Rao since then for the declining appeal of the party.

He has demanded that Mr. Rao order fresh investigations into former Premier Rajiv Gandhi's 1991 assassination and a \$1.3-billion bank scam, and also sought a public apology for the 1992 razing of a mosque by Hindu

Mr. Singh told his supporters in Banda that Mr. Rao was "running away from realities" by ignoring the issues he had raised in his resignation letter.

Congress sources said Mr. Singh's latest attack on Mr. Rao had virtually destroyed attempts by party leaders to bring the two together, and Mr. Rap's supporters were pressing for action against the defiant former minister.

Newspapers said the Rao camp was contemplating clipping the wings of Mr. Singh by possibly sacking him from the 109-year-old party. Such a move had been expected a week ago.

The opposition initially de-

manded a constitutional

amendment to hold future

elections under a neutral

caretaker government. but

since walking out have step-

ped up their demands, calling

Both sides agreed on Ms.

Zia's offer to step down 30

days ahead of scheduled polls

oversee the elections, but

failed to agree on the format

of the president's interim

Meanwhile, hundreds of

police were on alert as ten-

sion gripped Bangladesh's

southeast port city. Chitta-

gong, Monday, the second-

day of an industrial strike

that has left one worker dead

and 130 injured, sources said.

wage rises among other

things, continued their pro-

tests and barricaded a rail

Many of those injured

Police said a 50-year-old

were in serious condition.

jute mill worker died Sunday

and 100 people, including 30

policemen, were wounded

during a mid-day incident in

the suburbs of Chittagong.

ton and textile workers

walked out of factories

nationwide Sunday to push

their demands for higher

wages among others.

Several thousand jute, cot-

Angry workers demanding

for Ms. Zia's immediate res-

ignation and snap polls.

Tribal gunmen kill 9

In another development. tribal guerrillas campaigning for a nomeland gunned down nine sleeping labourers in the northeastern Indian state of Assam, the Press Trust of India

(PTi) reported Monday. At least eight others were senously injured in the attack late Sunday in Assam's Kokraihar district by the outlawed Bodo Security Force (BSF), the news agency said.

Nearly 50 gunmen opened indiscriminate fire on a large group of labourers while they slept, PTI said.

At least 50 sleeping Muslims were massacred by Bodo tribals in Assam in July last year. It was not clear if the latest victims were Muslims. Bodos and Muslims have

frequently clashed in oil-rich

sian President Boris Yeltsin Assam, an ethnic powder-keg signed documents guaranbordering Bangladesh. teeing the rights of Russian The BSF, which is fighting citizens living in Kazakhstan to carve out a Bodo homeand Kazakh passport holders land in Assam, wants all nonin Russia, as well as easing citizenship application proce tribal settlers to leave Bododominated villages.

General Rose leaves Bosnia as U.S. envoy confers with Serbs

SARAJEVO (Agencies) -Lieutenant-General Michael Rose left here Monday for Zagreb at the end of a controversial year as senior U.N. commander for Bosnia, insisting he had made "good friends" in the Bosnian govemment.

"Gen. Rose is to hand over responsibility for some 23,000 U.N. peacekeepers to General Rupert Smith Tues-day and will then travel to Geneva to meet U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali and U.N. special envoy to former Yugoslavia Yasushi

Gen. Smith. who will also attend the Geneva talks, is due here Wednesday. Little loved by Bosnian au-

thorities, who have found him too accommodating to the Serbs, Gen. Rose insisted he had made "good friends in the Bosnian government." "I know the gratitude of

the people around me every day as I walk the streets.' Asked about the criticism he has received here, he said: "In any war situation, what is rhetoric and what is real are

Armed men threw two gre-

nades into a vocational

school in the Burundian

capital Bujumbura Monday,

killing a pupil, hours after a

gang attacked the military hospital here, wounding a

The grenades were hurled

on to the premises of the

training college in the north-

ern Kamenge district of the

capital, inhabited mainly by people of the Hutu ethnic

majority, witnesses told

Overnight Sunday, about

50 men dressed in black

assaulted the hospital.

wounding a soldier from the

Tutsi-dominated army and

setting fire to a vehicle before

going on to attack houses, the

One of the assailants was

killed during the raid, which observers blamed on Hutu

extremists opposed to a pow-

er-sharing pact between the

Hutu-led government and the

minority Tutsis of the central

The attackers, who were

thought to come from Hutu

militia forces the army drove

out of northern Bujumbura

into the surrounding hills in

May last year, subsequently

damaged several houses and

wrecked a score of cars in the

mainly Tutsi South-Matanga

district in the west of the city.

came during a curfew in force

Kazakhs

ties with

ALMA-ATA(R) - Kazakh-

stan has taken a big step

towards closer integration

with Russia by signing agree-

ments on military coopera-

tion, citizenship and a cus-

toms union. Prime Minister

Akezhan Kazhegeldin said

"Our societies need in-tegration." Mr. Kazhegeldin

told a news conference after

returning from Moscow

where he and President Nur-

sultan Nazarbayev signed 17:

The wide-ranging agree-

ments propose setting up

joint military structures as

well as putting four military

testing sites under Russian

Nuclear tests at the Semi-

palatinsk range in the north-

east of the country will not resume." Mr. Kazhegeldin

Kazakhstan and Russia will

also create a free trade bloc

in which their central banks

will coordinate monetary

policy to stabilise their cur-

rencies, the rouble and the

Kazhegeldin also said Be-

larus would join a customs

union set up between

Kazakhstan and Russia and

Mr. Nazarbayev and Rus-

open to third parties.

cooperation documents.

Monday.

control.

Russia

boost

The raid on the hospital

African highland nation.

national radio reported.

two very different things." Gen. Rose, who left by plane, told reporters at U.N.operated Sarajevo airport that the greatest challenge for his successor will be "to keep the momentum going behind

proved so successful in these last two weeks." Gen. Rose played a key role in getting an agreement Dec. 31 between the Muslimled government and rebel Serb authorities on a fourmonth cessation of hostilities that has generally held despite sporadic outbreaks of

the peace process, which has

fighting.
"I think the fact that the ceasefire and the cessation of hostilities have lasted as well as they have for over three weeks now shows a very serious intent by the parties to bring about an end to this war and return their people to normalised living."

When I arrived here I said it would be naive for anyone to say they could deliver peace to Bosnia-Herzegovina. But I thought if you could make one small step down that way to peace,

between 7:00 p.m. (1700 GMT) and 5:00 a.m. (0300

GMT), which was imposed

Dec. 21 amid the bloodshed

that followed the election of a

Hutu, Jean Minani, as par-

Mr. Minani, accused of

being an extremist by his

detractors, stood down, but

he denied claims that he had

called for the slaughter of

Tutsis following a foiled military coup in October

On Sunday, Interior Minis-

ter Jean-Baptiste Manwan-

gari extended the curfew to

the troubled northern pro-

vince of Kirundo on the bor-

der with Rwanda, which was

last year wracked by carnage

between its own Hutus and

Tutsi minority that claimed

onies have a history of blood-

shed between the two com-

The coalition government

in Bujumbura has accused

former interior minister.

Leonard Nyangoma, a hard-

line Hutu who lives in exile in

Zaire, and his armed suppor-

ters of waging a violent cam-

paign to destabilise the

Scores of people have been

killed in raids and arson

attacks on villages and terror

operations, including gre-

nade attacks on the main

market in the capital Bujum-

bura, in recent weeks.

country.

Both former Belgian col-

up to a million lives.

liamentary speaker.

Gunmen attack Burundi

school, military hospital

then one could leave after a year having felt there had been some achievement.

"As it is we've made several steps down that road to

Meanwhile, U.S. envoy Charles Thomas, a member of the five-nation "contact group" which is trying to revive peace negotiations in Bosnia, held a second day of talks with Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic on Monday. Mr. Thomas said after a

meeting with Mr. Karadzic Sunday that he was confident negotiations on an overall settlement to the three-yearold war could resume. The official Bosnian Serb

news agency SRNA said Mr. Thomas and Mr. Karadzic would discuss Monday how the "continuation of peace negotiations" could be brought about. The Bosnian Serbs have so

far rejected the contact group peace plan, under which they would have given up about one third of the territory they hold and accept a 49 per cent share of Bosnia. Bosnia's

BANGKOK (R) — Burma's

dissident leader Aung San

Suu Kyi, in a rare message

from detention in Burma,

assured pro-democracy col-

leagues there would be no

secret deal with the junta

over her release and said she

remains dedicated to the

Ms. Suu Kyi said, in a

statement brought from ran-

goon to Bangkok by her hus-

band British academic

Michael Aris and obtained by

Reuters on Monday, that she

was at all times bound by the

democratic duty to act with

colleagues and be guided by

there will not be any secret

deals with regard either to my

release or any other issue,

said the Nobel peace laureate

who has been held in her

lakeside Rangoon home since

of accountability and consid-

er myself at all times bound

by the democratic duty to act

in consultation with col-

Her statement appeared to

be in response to concerns

voiced by pro-democracy activists that she might agree

to be released under tight

restrictions which would cur-

But in her message, dated

Sunday, she said she would

tail her political activities.

leagues."

I adhere to the principle

"There has not been and

their aspirations.

democracy movement.

Burn

Muslim-Croat federation would get the rest.

The contact group has shifted its ground since last July, when it first presented the plan as a "take-it-orleave-it" solution to the war.

The Bosnian Serbs, keep to see their war gains accepted as fact, are happy to treat the plan as a basis for further negotiations about The Bosnian government,

which has accepted the ori-ginal plan, has said it is not prepared to renegotiate it. À U.S. government official told Reuters the Serbs were ready to treat the peace plan as a basis for a territorial settlement with the Bosnian government but were seeking one-sided changes to the 'peace map.'

The Serbs are now prepared to use the contact group map as the map on which they would propose modifications or swaps," said the official. But the Serbs would give the government 'basically nothing' in return. Other members of the contact group, from Russia, Ger-

aspirations of those engaged

in the movement to establish

a truly democratic political

system in Burma" and re-

mained "dedicated to an ac-

tive participation in this

The Burmese junta has

scotched speculation that it

might be about to release the

49-year-old daughter of Bur-

ma's independence hero

The speculation was fuel-

led by two unprecedented

meetings with junta leaders

Burma's ruling generals told visiting Thai Foreign Minister Thaksin Shinawatra

last week she would not be

freed until a constitution now

being written is complete,

which diplomats say could

Ms. Suu Kyi said in her

message she approached the Sept. 20 and Oct. 28 talks

with junta leaders with

firm conviction of those

working for democracy in

Burma that it is only through

meaningful dialogue between

diverse political forces that

we can achieve national re-

She referred to last De-

cember's U.N. general assem-

bly resolution calling on the

junta to engage in a substan-

tive political dialogue with

conciliation," she said.

"It has always been the

take several years.

'genuine good will.'

movement.

Aung San.

late last year.

were due in Sarajevo later Monday for talks with the Bosnian government together with Mr. Thomas

All five envoys were tenta-tively scheduled to meet the Rosnian Serbs in Pale, just outside Sarajevo, Tuesday,

Sarajevo road reopened In another development warring parties in Bosnia Monday reached agreement on reopening a road linking Sarajevo to the outside world, a senior U.N. official

Viktor Andreyev, head of the U.N. Protection Force civil affairs department, said the agreement — to come into effect in a week - would allow Bosnian civilians travelling in groups to cross the U.N.-held Sarajevo airport in order to come and go between the besieged city and government-held territory in the centre of the

Humanitarian groups, including local organisations, would also be able to use the

dissident leader Suu Kyi ominated by the approach the 1990 conference, which side to review the progress says n J secret deal with junta me towards implementing ers and representatives from

ethnic groups. "It was in full acceptance of this view and with genuine **Peacekeepi** good will that I approached the meetings with members of the state law and order restoration council," she said, using the junta's official

Mr. Aris discounted rumours that his wife had been permitted to meet her iailed National League for Democracy (NLD) colleagues party chairman Tm Oo and spokesman Kyi

been no meeting between Ms. Suu Kyi and former head of state Ne Win as rumoured late last year. Ms. Suu Kyi's detention

He also said there had

was not officially renewed when the last period elapsed Jan. 10, Mr. Aris said. "Her status has not been

clarified. They have not order as they have done in the past," Mr. Aris told Reu-

Under the military government's own law a period of house arrest can last a maximum of five years but a senior junta official said last year her first year of detention was an "arrest period" and her five-year detention only began in July 1990.

in Maastricht treaty on European union and to determe the future speed and faction of European in-

planned for stablishment of a peatekeeping force on the mflict-ridden African contisat moved closer Monday when Britain, Canada,

Frace and the United States

World

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ada new era on Monday

beign ministers rubbe:

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and the Union's future

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The council's approval of

Mass Santer to succeed

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with the beginning of

grountdown to next year's

mal intergovernmental

some into a new phase in 1090 will loom in-

resingly large was enhanc-

d by the presence Monday

de foreign ministers of

ama. Finland and Sweden

aber first general affairs

amai since their nations en-

med the union. The importance of the up-

ming conference was furth-

gressed by France's Alain

he set out a distinct

senda for the current

and presidency of the un-

Fl officials expect much the year's business to be

aktence (IĞC). The sense that the EU is

a new European

beran talks here with 20 Afrian countries. Field Marshal Sir Peter he, chief of the defence affin Britain, and Zimbabwan Defence Minister Moven Mahachi, co-hosts of the meeting, ruled out a anding multinational force but favoured permanent

command and logistics cen-The week-long conference a Harare follows earlier neetings in Accra and Cairo response to a decision by be Organisation of African Unity (OAU) at a summit in 1993 to set up a mechanism

"by the prevention, management and resolution of con-Mr. Mahachi acknowedged at a news conference ther the formal opening of the talks that the OAU would

he incapable of running such in organisation and said supon from the United Nations rould be needed. "It is too early to expect the OAU to manage an army it can't even manage its

administrative probens." Mr. Mahachi said. "What we think may be easible is to urge member states to have troops always ready to carry out any beacekeeping operations when asked for," along with establishment of a supply

base, he added. Mr. Inge agreed that costs done put the formation of a permanent peacekeeping but said the establishment of command and control orga-

Rose Ken U.S. dyn

kennedy, matriarch of America's most famous Political family, died Sunday at her home in Hyanhisport, Massachusetts at the age of 104, her son, Senator Edward Kennedy said in a statement. The cause of death was

complications from meumonia. Mrs. Kennedy died at 5:30 p.m. EST, surrounded by friends and family, including Country Changedy. cluding Senator Kennedy, her only surviving son, and Emily of her daughters, Kenned Shriver and Jean kennedy Smith, the cur-lent U.S. ambassador to

""Mother passed away beacefully today." said senator Kennedy. "She ay life, and we knowd her kennedy. To all of us in the families, she was the most

always be "guided by the herself, other political lead-**NEWS IN BRIEF**

U.S. marks anniversary of legalised abortion

22nd anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court ruling that legalised abortion with both sides condemning the deadly violence striking clinics around the country. "We're not going to be stopped by bullets," said National Organisation of Women President Patricia Ireland, referring to the murders of five doctors and abortion clinic workers murdered by abortion foes since 1993. Ms. Ireland was speaking at a rally of some 2,000 pro-choice activists in Boston, Massachusetts, where two receptionists were gunned down at two separate clinics Dec. 30. Two people were arrested for disrupting an anti-abortion rally where about 600 people gathered to protest the 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision. "I had both sides of the debate characterising me as having blood on my hands," said Boston's Cardinal Bernard Law. "That's symptomatic of our problem. There hasn't been enough listening," added Cardinal Law. who said he had received "violent" letters from supporters and opponents after he called for a moratorium on clinic protests to stop the bloodshed. Some 50 antiabortion protesters gathered outside the church in Washington where President Bill Clinton generally worships, waving signs reading "Excommunicate the Clintons," and "repent Clintons." But Mr. Clinton, who has supported a woman's right to abortion, attended a different church to avoid a confrontation.

Liberian warlords meet

ACCRA (AFP) — Several Liberian warlords have arrived in Ghana where talks were due to resume Monday to break the deadlock over a new ruling council for the war-ravaged country, a ministry of information spokesman said. Among those have arrived in the Ghanaian capital Accra by Monday morning were Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) chief of staff General Hezekia Bowen, along with the leaders of four so-called "coalition forces." The five groups' failure to agree a joint representative on the new council wrecked peace talks here earlier this month. They broke up Jan. 12, sparking off violent protests in the Liberian capital Monrovia.

Senegal gunmen kill 3 soldiers

DAKAR (R) — Gunmen in the southern Senegalese province of Casamance killed three government soldiers in an apparent resurgence of separatist violence, the governemnt daily Le Soleil reported Monday. The paper said unidentified attackers killed two soldiers on Sunday and had slain one last Monday. Sunday's killings, near the regional capital Ziguinchro, came as members of the separatist Movement of Democratic Forces of Casamance (MFDC) demonstrated in Sedhiou, 80 kilometres to the east, in defiance of a ban by local authorities.

Vietnam-China joint group meets

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Americans marked Sunday the HANOI (AFP) - Vietnam and China have held a fourth round of talks on their lingering border disputes in Beijing, the official Vietnam News Agency (VNA) said here Monday. The meeting of the Joint Working Group for Land Borders took place in an "atmosphere of friendship, sincerity, frankness and mutual understanding, and got certain positive progress." VNA said without elaborating. The two sides agreed to meet in Hanoi in May to continue the talks on demarcation, which began in 1991 when the former enemies normalised ties following more than a decade of frosty relations. The third round of talks took place here last October when the two sides signed an agreement on expert level talks on their common land frontier, still in dispute since it was demarcated by French colonial authorities with the imperial government of China in the last century. Talks on the frontier and on territorial disputes that cover the South China Sea have progressed painfully slowly, with diplomats here saying both sides prefer to play a waiting game as they manoeuvre for German remanded over boy prostitution racket

COLOMBO (AFP) - A German tourist has been remanded by a Sri Lankan magistrate on a charge of running a prostitution racket using local boys under the age of 14, police said Monday. The 65-year-old German, identified as Gunter Platz Dasch of Stuttgart, was arrested last week at his rented home in the southern resort village of Ambalangoda in the company of two teenaged boys and was remanded till Friday, police said. "He (the German) has been visiting Sri Lanka for the past nine years, a police spokesman said. "We have recorded statements of 12 children who had worked for him," the spokesman added. He said one child, a nine-year-old boy, has had sex with 15 tourists, mainly Germans, in the first 10 days of this year. The children have been sent for medical tests.

Teenage girl, brother hacked dead

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines (R) — A teenage Muslim gar was raped, then hacked to death with her brother, on the southern island of Basilan in the Philippines, police said Monday. Police claimed suspected Muslim extremists were behind the atrocity, on the island where two Filipinos were kidnapped by Muslim bandits on Saturday. But Muslim sources said this was highly unlikely. The bodies of Imah Nuddin, 15, and her brother Suhuddin, 17, were found in Maluso municipality on Basilan island Friday with their heads almost severed after they were struck with machetes. Basilan police chief Sukarno Ikbala said. The girl had also been raped, he said.

Viktor Andreyev, head to Protection he was affairs department of the control of t

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The council's approval of Jacques Santer to succeed Jacques Delors at the head of the EU's executive arm coihcided with the beginning of the countdown to next year's crucial intergovernmental conference (IGC).

The sense that the EU is moving into a new phase in which 1996 will loom increasingly large was enhanced by the presence Monday of the foreign ministers of Austria, Finland and Sweden at their first general affairs council since their nations entered the union.

The importance of the upcoming conference was further stressed by France's Alain Impoe as the set out a distinct agenda for the current French presidency of the un-

EU officials expect much of this year's business to be dominated by the approach of the 1996 conference, which is due to review the progress made towards implementing the Maastricht treaty on European union and to determine the future speed and direction of European in-

On Monday ministers held their first discussion on preparations for a conference which seems bound to become the focus for a major clash between advocates of a federal Europe and those

Europe enters new era

as countdown to crucial

integration has already gone too far. Mr. Juppe said Paris had made completion of a council report on the groundwork for 1996 a priority of its presiden-

who believe the process of

cy, which lasts until July. This report is expected to be completed by April but detailed negotiations between the personal repre-sentatives of the premiers of the 15 EU members will not get underway until the cond half of the year.

The present year is going to be one of thought and preparation," British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said. "Ahead of us is a fresh range of important decisions about our future," he said.

British Prime Minister John Major has attempted to play down the significance of next year's conference, arguing that the high tide of federalism in Europe has pas-sed and that a major leap forward in terms of the political integration of the continent was not on the cards. But the extent to which Major is out of step with his EU partners was reflected in

their remarks on Monday. Italy's new foreign minister, Susanna Agnelli, said 1996 should "reestablish the foundations of Europe," and that particular emphasis should be placed on reinforc-

ing a common security and defence policy for the EU. Belgium's Frank Vandenbroucke said the forging of new institutional arrangements in 1996 was a vital precondition of the union's planned opening to include former communist states of

eastern Europe. And he warned that enlargement should not be viewed in contrast to deeper integration of western Europe. "We fully support the

opening but not at the expense of what the union has already established," he said. Mr. Santer indicated that his commission would be driven by a similar approach to that of Delors by arguing that 1996 was about achieving a "qualitative leap towards a deeper union."

Werner Hoyer, represent-ing Germany in the absence of Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, said: "Our expectations of the IGC must not be unreasonable," but the alternative minimalist approach might mean missing the opportunity that the con-ference presents."

Peacekeeping force planned for Africa HARARE (AFP) - The misations will be very impor-

establishment of a peacekeeping force on the conflict-ridden African continent moved closer Monday when Britain, Canada, France and the United States began talks here with 20 African countries.

Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge, chief of the defence staff in Britain, and Zimbabwean Defence Minister. Moven Mahachi, co-hosts of the meeting, ruled out a standing multinational force but favoured permanent command and logistics cen-

The week-long conference in Harare follows earlier meetings in Accra and Cairo in response to a decision by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) at a summit in 1993 to set up a mechanism "for the prevention, management and resolution of con-

Mr. Mahachi acknowledged at a news conference after the formal opening of the talks that the OAU would be incapable of running such an organisation and said support from the United Nations would be needed.

"It is too early to expect the OAU to manage an army - it can't even manage its own administrative problems," Mr. Mahachi said. "What we think may be feasible is to urge member states to have troops always ready to carry out any peacekeeping operations when asked for," along with

the establishment of a supply hase he added. Mr. Inge agreed that costs alone put the formation of a permanent peacekeeping force "in cloud cuckoo land," but said the establishment of "command and control orga-

Apart from Britain, Canada, France and Zimbabwe, the meeting is being attended by representatives from Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gha-na, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambi-que, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, the OAU, the U.N. and the

Commonwealth secretariat.

Mr. Inge told the delegates in an opening address that he hoped "positive action" would be taken after the conference.

He said that although Africa was no longer the stage for cold war conflicts fought by proxy, "along with the promise of South Africa has come the horror of Rwanda."

While South Africa last year saw the election of its first black majority government and the end of apartheid, Rwanda in central Africa plunged into three months of ethnic carnage which cost up to a million

Mr. Inge said more than 40 per cent of the United Nations' peacekeeping effort

was devoted to Africa. Questioned on the effectiveness of peacekeeping efforts around the world, Mr. Inge said he was "convinced we have saved many thousands of lives in Bosnia and prevented the conflict from spreading."
Zimbabwe has already

been involved in U.N. peacekeeping operations in Somalia and is preparing another force for Angola, where Mr. Mahachi said it was prepared to commit a battalion "at any time we are asked by the U.N."

Australia opposition leader fighting survival

SYDNEY (AFP) — Australia's opposition leader Alexander Downer is fighting for survival after eight months at the head of the country's conservative Liberal Party.

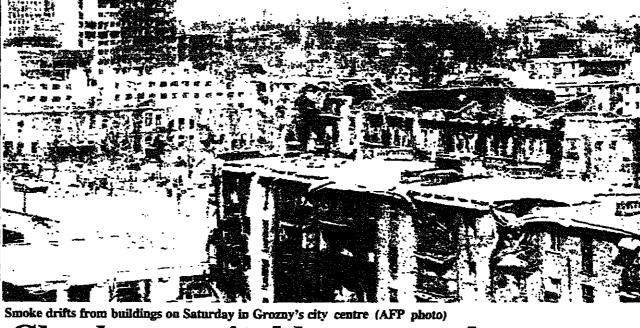
The party is considered to be in disarray as slumping nolls have showed a switch in party support from Mr. Downer to former Liberal leader John Howar, expected to challenge for the leadership by the end of January.

In what is seen as a desperate attempt to shore up support, Mr. Downer whas seen lunching in the past week with John Hewson, the former leader he deposed in a party room vot ein May and later sacked from his cabinet.

A Newspoll last Tuesday said only 21 per cent of respondents would prefer to have Mr. Downer as prime minister, compared with 47 per cent for Prime Minister Paul Keating, although the party held a narrow lead over the governing Labour Party.

The debacle in the Liberal Party, which forms the official opposition coalition with its junior partner, the National Party, has opened it to ridicule from opponents.

Cheryl Kernot, leader of the minority Australian Democrats, told a national party conference Saturday that the Liberals "scarcely seem relevant to national politics at the moment."



Chechen capital becomes ghost town

GROZNY (AFP) - No longer the main theatre of combat, the Chechen capital Grozny has become a virtual ghost town save for a few combatants still lingering in the wreckage of a

month's fighting.

Most of its population has fled, its buildings stand in ruins, burnt down in Russian bombing raids. Yet still the occasional resident appears almost bizarrely amid the rubble. trying to eke out an exist-

For the past two days, both Chechen and Russian forces have dug in, the Russians holding the centre of town around the shell of the presidential palace while their opponents defend the opposite bank of the Sunzha river.

Only small groups of Chechens fighters can be seen in the city's battered streets, sub-machine guns and rocket launchers in hand, and clad in white camouflage. Some have simple sheets wrapped round their uniforms.

In contrast to the early days of the war, the Chechens no longer move around on foot to join battle wherever they hear its tell-tale sounds. They have instead evolved into a wellorganised force in which everyone knows their specific role.

"Last night we rested and we are now going to stand watch near the bridge over the Sunzha," explains 26-year-old Mohammad, his big smile revealing four gold teeth.

"It is the general staff which tells our commander where to go," he says, pointing to his section's "commander," a man barely any older than himself who has not even bothered to camouflage his black anorak.

Gingerly, they slink along building by building, stopping at each corner for a moment before running at full pelt across the road until they reach a small cellar which serves as their

Just 800 metres away is the front line, which bisects Grozny from north to south.

The Chechens remain defiant, insisting they will continue to fight to the end despite the loss of the palace last week. "When I left, I told my

you must take up my rifle," says Ruslan Issambayev. who took up arms Dec. 13, just two days after the Russians marched into the republic (JCSCP) Monday public to crush Chechen

But the advance of the Russians, now as determined as the Chechens to win the battle, appears inexorable. Their chief difficulty will be reaching the other side of the river. There are only four crossing points, all of them in the city centre.

independence.

With few of them believing the enemy will not get across eventually, the Chechens have taken to discussing how best to continue the combat from the mountains to the south

Moscow's troops intend to block off the Chechen's last access to the capital at the southern end of town and should have done already, according to Russian intelligence head Sergei Stepashin. They have already taken the war to outlying villages west of Grozny.

On Sunday, the Russians blasted southeastern parts of Grozny as they have done for the past three weeks while AFP reporters saw sharpshooters on the other bank prepare to deal with anyone daring to cross the main avenues or railway line.

À mortar shell fell just metres from the Chechen's makeshift base, killing six of them. Nearby, a Russian sniper hit two women, killing one and wounding the second.

Chechen fighters, not daring to venture on to the street to recover them, instead threw over ropes to drag them in.

In the garden of one small house, dogs tore at two abandoned corpses, while in the next street. another huddled corpse lying there for several days could be seen half-covered by snow.

Yet some civilians are still braving even these conditions to stay on in the

One old couple shuffles past the burned wrecks of what were houses to a shelter which has been their home for the past three weeks after fetching what little food they could from their apartment.

410,000 displaced by conflict, says UNHCR

By Cathy King Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — An estimated 410.000 people have been displaced by the continuing conflict in Chechenya, the Geneva-based United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has reported recently.

In a statement obtained by

the Jordan Times Monday, the UNHCR said it believed that about 150,000 people had fled to Chechenya's neighbouring countries of Ingusheria, Daghestan, North Ossetia and the Stravopol region of southern

Another 200,000 displaced persons are thought to remain within Chechenya itself, the statement said.

The UNHCR airlifted 75 toppes of humanitarian aid to Vladikavkaz, North Ossetia a tinues in Chechenya. week ago. The shipment was stranded in Amsterdam for two weeks on account of Russian bureaucracy, UNHCR Representative in Amman Janvier de Riedmatten said Monday.

An assessment mission of nine UNHCR staff and one nitarian Affairs based in Vladikavkaz, will update the number of those displaced and assess their needs, Mr.

de Riedmatten said. UNHCR was working in cooperation with the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC).

"The UNHCR mission is dealing with the refugees and working in the areas sursaid.

In the meantime the Jordanian Committee for the Support of the People of the maining in the war-torn re-Independent Chechen Re-

The man carries two plastic bags, the woman a bowl of uncooked rice. "Come on then," she calls

out to their cat, which obediently follows on behind. Another couple is pulling out altogether, dragging a small sledge containing a small parcel wrapped in a

blanket. "We are leaving. For a fortnight they bombed the said that 6,000 Chechen children have been orphaned by the conflict. The conflict began on Dec. 11 when the Russian federation intervened militarily to

appealed to international

to continue their assistance.

Chechen people the JCSCP

humanitarian organisations

In its plea on behalf of the

restore Russian control over the self-declared republic of Chechenya. The letter addressed to international humanitarian organisations, called for orphans and refugees to be

afforded "dignified conditions to survive the hardships they have been subjected ICRC delegation representative in Amman Yves Giovannoni told the Jordan

Times that ICRC aid con-Mr. Giovannoni said that medical supplies collected by the JCSCP (to be shipped to Chechenya by the ICRC) had reached Amsterdam. Follow-

ing receipt of Russian clearance it will be transported to Chechenya, he added. With regard to two Jorda-

member of the United Na- man Chechen students re tions Department of Huma- portedly arrested by Russian authorities, Mr. Giovannoni confirmed that the ICRC would try to locate them. He added that ICRC Presi-

dent Cornelio Sommarugo He added that the had met with Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev. During the meeting they discussed the arrangement of checkups on prisoners, Mr. Giovannoni said.

He also said he expected a communications link berounding Chechenya, while tween the Jordanian Chechen the ICRC is dealing with community and Chechen victims of the conflict," he communities elsewhere would be established in the next few weeks, availing families to contact those re-

> house opposite then the pharmacy, the two buildings next to it, the institute and the church. Yesterday they hit our house," they explain.

One woman, Bella, left town a month ago to stay in a nearby village. But she comes back every two to three days, braving the shells 'to feed my chickens."

Indonesian opposition party hits out at rivals

JAKARTA (R) — Megawati
Sukarnoputri, daughter of Indonesia's late President

inis disappearance.
One senior party said Mr. Litaay Sukarno, said Monday the mysterious disappearance of a key figure in her PDI political party shows how much a big opposition group is feared in Indonesia.

The four-day disappearance of Indonesia Democratic Party's (PDI's) Secretary General Alex Litaay, apparently part of a continuing power struggle within the party, is an example of the heavy pressures on independent politicians, she said. The disappearance coin-

cided with claims by a rival board chairman that Ms. Litaay, who is believed to be a loyal supporter of Ms. Megawati and a key party organiser, had defected.

But Ms. Megawati, who said she finally made contact with Mr. Litary Sunday, said he had not defected. She said Mr. Litaay was emotional and appeared to have been under pressure although she declined to give details about

One senior party member said Mr. Litaay had been abducted by Indonesian military officers and rebel party activists.

There are elements trying to rattle PDI, both internally and externally. The case of Alex is one concrete example that there are unspecified interests who do not want to see PDI become big," Ms. Megawati told Reuters in an interview.

"It seems he was under some pressure. (But) we both agreed that we will not reveal the reason he could not be contacted.

"But I have my own assumptions (about his disappearance) because the secretary general's position within PDI is quite strategic. Everyone can draw their own conclusions from this," said Ms. Megawati, a 47-year-old mother of three.

The PDI, which has 16 million members, is one of three political parties allowed to operate in Indonesia

Old Masters held secretly in Russia to be shown

WASHINGTON (AFP) -More than 100 long-missing paintings by artists such as Tintoretto and Degas will be displayed this year at Moscow's Pushkin art museum. the Washington Post reported Monday. The 132 paintings were part of two collections belonging to two Hungarian Jewish families, the Hertzogs and the Hatvanys, that were seized by the Germans and then by the Soviet during World War II. The collections have been kept secretly in Russia. Addressing a conference in New York entitled The Spoils of War, Valery Kulishov, director of the Russian ministry of culture's bureau of restitutions, for the first time confirmed that Russia had the paintings, the Post re-ported. He sad the works by Tintoretto, El Greco, Goya, Corot, Renoir and Degas would be exhibited this year at the Pushkin Museum, Moscow's largest art

London cabble wins lottery jackpot --twice

LONDON (R) — A London cab driver won this week's jackpot in Britain's national lottery twice over, the Sun newspaper said Monday. Gerry Konyn, 63, submitted the winning six numbers as part of a 17-strong syndicate of "Cabbies" then, feeling lucky, he entered the same sequence of numbers on his own. His syndicate share netted him £80,000 (\$126,800) while his solo win was worth £1.37 million (\$2.17 million). This week's total jackpot drawn Saturday totalled £9.5 million (\$15.22 million).

British women drivers like fast lane

LONDON (R) - Women see more likely than men to their foot down on the accelerator and exceed the speed limit on Britain's motorways, according to a survey. Just 14 per cent of women keep under 60 mph (96 kph) on motorways, compared with 38 per cent of men, said the survey from Car Windscreen and Window Company autoglass. The speed limit on British motorways is 70 mph (113 kph)

Bald Poles stage protest, want to head key posts

WARSAW (R) - Members of Poland's fringe Bald People's Party launched a hunger strike to demand representation in the country's top echelons of power, PAP news agency said. "The protesters want the new constitution to guarantee bald people top state posts," the agency quoted Witold Slusarski, a spokesman for the protest, as saying. "This includes naming people who once had hair to head the key foreign, defence and interior ministries." The right to make appointments to the three posts is at present being dis-puted by President Lech Walesa and Prime Minister Waldemar Pawlak, both of whom have their hair.

High-profile former murder suspect arrested for assault LONDON (AFP) - Colin

Stagg, who was acquitted of murdering a young mother in front of her toddler son, was arrested Sunday for allegedly wielding an axe at a man in the same park where the young woman was killed, police said. Mr. Stagg spent more than a year in jail awaiting trial for the murder on Wimbledon Common in south London of 23-year-old Rachel Nickell, who was stabbed to death on the common in July 1992 in front of her two-year-old son. Mr. Stagg was freed last year when a judge threw out a prosecution case built around the efforts of a policewoman posing as a sado-masochist to illicit a confession on the promise of sex. The entire case against Mr. Stagg, a 31-year-old virgin who was obsessed with the occult, was based on the controversial method of psychological profiling — building up a mental photofit and looking for a suspect who fitted those characteristics. He was arrested Sunday in the company of a 26-year-old woman after a man complained that he and his 11-year-old son had been attacked by a man with an

Rose Kennedy, matriarch of 🔀 🍱 U.S. dynasty, dies at 104

BOSTON (R) - Rose Kennedy, matriarch of America's most famous political family, died Sunday at her home in Hyannisport, Massachusetts at the age of 104, her son, Senator Edward Kennedy said in a statement.

The cause of death was complications from

pneumonia. Mrs. Kennedy died at 5:30 p.m. EST, surrounded by friends and family, including Senator Kennedy, her only surviving son, and two of her daughters. Eunice Shriver and Jean Kennedy Smith, the current U.S. ambassador to

Ireland. "Mother passed away peacefully today." said Senator Kennedy. "She had a long and extraordinary life, and we loved her deeply. To all of us in the Kennedy and Fitzgerald families, she was the most

beautiful Rose of all." Rose Kennedy, who lost two sons to assassins' bullets but never shed a tear in public, lived a long life of both triumph and tragedy, four of her nine children having died violently. Her eldest son Joseph Jr. was killed in World War II,

daughter Kathleen died in a 1948 plane crash: President John Kennedy was assissinated in Dallas in 1963 and in 1968 Senator Robert F. Kennedy was murdered in Los Angeles as he campaigned for presi-

Mrs. Kennedy would have turned 105 on July 22 this year.

President Bill Clinton extended his condolences on Sunday to the Kennedy

family. "Very few Americans have endured as much per-

sonal sacrifice for their

country as Rose Kennedy. She played an extraordinary role in the life of an extraordinary family," Mr. Clinton said in a statement read by White House spokesman Arthur Jones. "Hillary and I extend our

deep felt symapthy to the Kennedy family," he said. She lived the last years of her life quietly in the Kennedy family compound on Cape Cod, a virtual invalid, unable even to speak. Concern among family members had mounted recently over her frail condition, and last week she was reported to be experiencing respiratory problems.

Also present at her bedside when she died were former peace corps director Sargent Shriver, Eunice's husband, Robert Kennedy's widow, Ethel Kennedy, and Victoria Reggie Kennedy, Senator Edward Kennedy's second wife.



This May 25, 1991 file photo shows Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy with her nurse and a security guard during an afternoon walk around the family compound in Hyannisport

By Rami G. Khouri

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Trek to square one

"EVERY TIME we make progress in the (peace) negotiations...some people carry out criminal attacks aimed at stopping them," Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said Sunday in condemning the bombings in Netanya. Mr. Arafat is right. And so is Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in agreeing with the Palestinian leader that the peace process is the target of all violent acts that have turned the lives of Palestinians and Israelis alike into a nightmare of fear, suffering and pain.

But painful as it is, Sunday's attack was in no way a complete surprise to anyone who understands the frustration that has come to engulf the lives of Palestinians under Israeli occupation. The bombings exploded against a growing sense of disappointment in the peace process as a whole and concerns that the process was leading to nowhere.

A quick look at how predictably the Rabin government reacted to the bombings, and we can easily see how the Israelis have not learned their lesson on how to avoid future 'attacks. By sealing off the occupied territorarresting scores of Arabs, and freezing the release of Palestinian detainees, Israel found it easier to mete out collective punishment to the Palestinians than to understand 'and address their frustration, which is dreeding violence and ultimately acts of

It appears easier and politically less damaging for the Israeli government to appease the anger of its constituency by cracking down on the Palestinians, holding Mr. Arafat responsible for the attack and threatening to suspend the peace process in order to punish the Palestinians for the killing of the 19 soldiers.

But that will only increase the possibilities for similar attacks in the future. It will not bring the security that both Arabs and Israelis want. The only way that can minimise such operations is to convince people that the peace process is working - and it is just and fair.

For that to happen, provisions of the Oslo and Cairo accords between the Palestinians Israel should be implemented. That means Israelis will have to withdraw from Palestinian cities, halt the building of settlements — which ironically the Israeli government decided to expand around Jerusalem Sunday — and allow the holding of elections in the occupied territories.

Once that happens, Palestinians will start developing faith in the peace process. They will have hope in the future and they will be less willing to end their lives in pointless

The Israelis should have learned this a long time ago. But, unfortunately, they have not. We just hope that we all do not have to go back to square one.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE SUICIDE bombings that killed 19 Israelis Sunday morning were designed to ruin the peace process and to create problems for the government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, said Al Dustour in an editorial Monday. The attack was one more link in a long chain of violent activities which have marked the long history of the Arao-Israeli conflict, said the daily. The Palestine Palestine National Authority (PNA) has realised that the opponents of peace are adamant in their position to ruin all chances for an agreement with Israel over self-rule and has therefore called for continued efforts on all fronts to pursue the peace process at all costs, said the daily. For its part, Israel has to respond with reason and avoid extreme measures which could obstruct the peace process, said the

A WRITER IN Al Ra'i daily Monday expressed hope that the government of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker would present Parliament with a policy statement that is different from the traditional statements of the previous catinets. Bassam Emoush, who is a member of the Lower House of Parliament, said it is a foregone conclusion that the government would secure a vote of confidence from the House simply because it include ministers who represent different parliamentary blocs with the exception of the Islamic Action Front (IAF). The writer said that the government was wrong to avoid consultations with the IAF, which is the largest bloc in Parliament, although the IAF members would have refused to join the cabinet. According to norms in other democracies, the opposition is consulted when a government is being formed; and ignoring this norm reflects weakness in the government's performance, he added. The writer also said that allowing former ministes to retain their positions and appeasing certain groups would not help the administration reform

The View from Fourth Circle

Terror, colonialism and peace in Palestine and Vietnam

Rabin is wrong to think that Israelis are being killed simply because of their nationality. Israelis are being killed because they have transformed the lives of Palestinians into an unending nightmare and have subjected the Arab World to one of its most humiliating historical phases

THE SUICIDE bombings that killed 19 Israelis on Sunday are a double tragedy that should be prevented from becoming a triple tragedy. The tragedy is double because it comprises two victims: the Israelis who were killed or injured in the blast Sunday, and the Palestinian people who have seen their sons turned into suicide bombers and their modern history into a continuous, agonising denial of their rights, a distortion of their morality, and an indiscriminate

militarisation of their political struggle.

We would be politically foolish and morally culpable if we reacted to this latest bloodshed merely by repeating the past's slogans, emotionalism, and fearful, retributive political reactions. This would transform a double tragedy into a triple one, by confirming our inability to see or to act beyond the surface manifestations of the violence that has planted our receipt for much of this continuity. plagued our region for much of this century.

There are several very troubling aspects to this latest bombing that we must come to grips with if we ever hope to rid our region of the modern scourge of Arab-Israeli colonialism and terror. The first is the fact that many, perhaps most, Palestinians and other Arabs are not particularly anguished by these and other similar killings of Israeli soldiers. Some Arabs are outright gleeful that Israeli soldiers are being killed and injured by the score. This is a harsh reality, but a reality nevertheless. The prevalent Israeli, American and Arab official political psyches do not want to deal with this fact. They prefer to ignore it. But it cannot be ignored. It must be addressed, honestly and

The politically correct response, according to the emerg-ing rules of the Israeli- and American-dominated new Middle Eastern order, is to condemn such acts of terrorism in the strongest possible terms, and to ask Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and his 15,000 guards to work harder to prevent such incidents. This is rather reasonable, but terribly insufficient, politically, historically and morally. It is not enough to condemn terror, because mere condemnation does not get to the root causes of the terror.

This brings up the second troubling aspect of this incident which is the woefully inadequate Israeli response, comprising the usual, now routine, series of measures, including closing off the West Bank and Gaza and striking at Palestinian targets. This time around Israel has compounded its traditional hysteria by also delaying the release of Palestinian prisoners and the opening of the Gaza-Jericho safe passage, and many in Israel want the peace

All of these measures are understandable, given Israeli grief and fear in the face of Palestinian terror, but they are all very short-sighted and ineffective responses by Israel. They will merely perpetuate and even intensify the underlying injustices and problems that cause Palestinians to resort to terror in the first place. If Israelis do not understand this, they are very stupid, very cruel, very blind or so numbed by the violence that defines their nation that

they have lost the ability to differentiate cause from effect.

Palestinian terror against Israelis is as grotesque and
unfortunate as Zionist/Israeli terror against Palestinians and other Arabs. But neither one is whimsical, or emanates from a historical vacuum. People do not use terror in a capricious or fanciful manner. They do so only out of agonising desperation, when they find themselves standing face to face with oblivion. The fact that terror is morally reprehensible does not mean that it will be abandoned by

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Sunday after the attack that Israelis are being killed simply because they are Israelis. He is mistaken, and not for the first time. Israelis are being killed because in achieving their own national goals they have transformed the lives of millions of Palestinians into a painful, unending nightmare, and have subjected much of the Arab world to one of its most humiliating historical phases.

Palestinians kill Israelis today, and many other Arabs watch in rapt fascination, because a very large number of Palestinians and Arabs — perhaps a majority — are unhappy with the current political balance between Arab and Israeli national rights. Palestinians feel frustrated and belittled by the demeaning nature of the peace talks underway with Israel, especially as it is becoming more and more clear to them that Israeli settlements have priority over Palestinian land rights. Palestinian frustration also stems from the fact that the political, economic and emotional energy of the Palestinians are not being channeled into constructive national development, because the emerging Palestinian entity is drifting towards the modern Arab tradition of autocratic, oligarchic, top-heavy political

The resort to terror has emerged, for some Palestinians, as the most feasible and satisfying response to the three forces that demean modern Palestinian and Arab cultures: the overwhelming dominance of Zionist/Israeli colonial interests and power in Palestine, the inability of the Palestinians to achieve the promise of peace and the apparent fragmentation, disunity and weakness of the Arab World in the face of Israeli and American wishes.

But this, too, is problematic, because Palestinian/Arab terror is a sign of our weakness and our desperation, and not of our strength or our resolve. It is hugely troubling to

not of our strength or our resolve. It is hugely troubling to see terror emerge as a primary expression of Arab disconent, and infinitely more disquieting to see terror practised in the name of Arab/Islamic culture. This is our tragedy, but it is not only our fault.

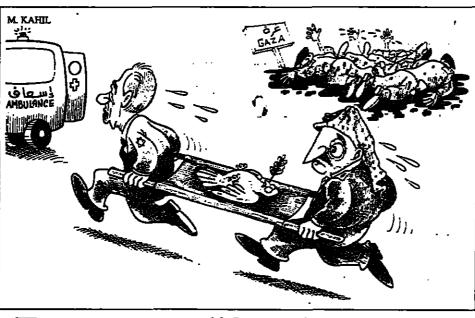
The question that must be addressed and honestly answered now by all Arabs and Israelis is very simply: Why have many Palestinians and other Arabs been reduced to the low point of using and acquiescing in the use of terror as a means of political expression that is not only deemed acceptable, but also, to many in our midst, satisfying? What has been done to us to turn us into brazen killers? With the use of terror by Israelis and Palestinians now

With the use of terror by Israelis and Palestinians now threatening the continuation of the peace process, it is no longer possible merely to condemn terror without rooting out its underlying causes. Verbal condemnation, combined with political, economic and military reprisals, will not have any appreciable impact on the certainty that more have any appreciable impact on the certainty that more terror will continue to plague us and to demean our culture and our morality. All of Israel's policies in recent years in Palestine, Lebanon and other places have merely aggra-vated Arab discontent, and prompted ever more daring and destructive acts of terror.

We now suffer a huge gulf between widespread official condemnation of the use of terror, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, growing popular Arab docility and acquiescence in the efficacy of terror against Israelis as an inevitable and even appropriate response to the predatory colonial policies of Israel against the Palestinians. If this gulf persists or even expands, it will also jeopardise the existing peace agreements that have been signed between Israel and each of Egypt and Jordan, because the current dynamics of peacemaking send a distressing signal: Israeli rights and aspirations enjoy priority over Palestinian and other Arab rights and aspirations.

This leaves us in a situation similar to that which existed when the United States signed a peace accord with North Vietnam in the early 1970s: Governments made peace, but the people did not. The peace accords that were signed by governments were subsequently rendered meaningless by e anger of the people in whose name they were signed This seems to me to be the main message that we should discern from the current round of Zionist terror in Palestine and Palestinian terror in Israel.

It may be politically correct to ignore this message. according to the short-term balance of power equation in our region; but it would be politically catastrophic to do so, according to the longer term historical realities of the enduring injustice that the Palestinians and other Arabs continue to suffer at the hands of Zionist colonisalism. Terror is a symptom of a deeper underlying problem, and not its cause. It is high time that we acted on this fact and removed the causes of terror, and forced the Israelis and their backers in the West to do the same, instead of merely and once again reacting in anger and grief to its symptoms. The peace process has not done this to date, and it must be adjusted and accelerated in an attempt to do so, if we hope to achieve the twin goals of justice and national rights that are the legitimate birthrights of Arabs and Israelis alike.



For non-proliferation treaty, the countdown has begun limited extension.

By Charles J. Hanley The Associated Press

NEW YORK - At a littlenoticed meeting next week, in murky manocuvring over agendas and rules, the world begins to make up its mind about the place of nuclear weapons in the 21st century.

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), designed to block the spread of atomic arms, is unique among big arms-control pacts: It wasn't written for the ages. When it took effect in 1970, it had only a guaranteed 25-year

Anything beyond that, the treaty itself stipulated, would have to be decided on by the world's nations in far-off 1995.

That distant future is here, and the critical decision will be made at a global conference this April at U.N. headquarters in New York. But the tone may be set first in procedural debates at next week's preparatory meeting here.

The United States would prefer a quick exercise in April: Gather, vote an indefinite extension of the NPT, then disperse forever. But many Third World governments have other ideas.

They want the five major nuclear powers - America, Russia, Britain, France and China - to do more to ban nuclear tests, dismantle arsenals and give weaker nations guarantees against nuclear attack. Dissatisfied with how the treaty has worked, many favour only a

George Bunn, who

helped negotiate the NPT for the United States in the 1960s, sees sense in the Third World arguments, since indefinite extension could make the nuclear class system - of haves and have-nots — permanent.
Asking non-nuclear na-

tions to accept an open-ended treaty, without greater progress towards global disarmament, "is asking them to... give up the bargaining leverage they now have, said Mr. Bunn, a Stanford University professor. The non-proliferation

treaty has its shortcomings. Under its provisions, the 169 signatory governments piedge to confine nuclear weapons to the five treaty nations acknowledged to have them. In return, the five are supposed to work towards nuclear disarmament, and every nation is guaranteed the right to develop peaceful nulcear tech-

nology.

But three countries not in the treaty — India, Pakistan and Israel — have developed nuclear weapons capability. And two that did sign — Iraq and North Korea - are known or suspected to have developed weapons programmes by misleading the International Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA), which administers

the NPT. No government proposes scrapping the treaty, but almost everything about it is in dispute. A Third World group in-

cluding Mexico, Nigeria,

Egypt and Iran wants the conference to produce a list of concrete disarmament

The Iranians, accused by Washington of having their own nuclear weapons ambitions, are among the loudest NPT dissidents. They want the April agenda to include, before any extension vote, a review of the big powers' perform-ance on disarmament and on disseminating peaceful technology.

Tehran's particular complaint: The Americans have tried to block its imports of nuclear equipment from Europe.

"They have interrupted the cooperation of other Western countries with Iran, and now they are putting pressure on Russia." said Behrouz Moradi, an Iranian negotiator.

It would be "irrational" for Iran to agree to an indefinite NTP extension when "the obligations of certain parties to the treaty have not yet been realised, he said.

Third World negotiators are worried, too, about voting procedures for extending the treaty - how options will be presented and in what order they will be voted on. They fear the U.S. delegation will orchestrate rules to ease the way for indefinite extension.

A U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Washington is optimistic it will have the 85-vote majority needed for indefi-

Decision on settlements a blow to peace

The Netanya bombings are a direct result of Israel's failure to implement the Oslo accord, especially in relations settlements in the occupied territories

By Michael Jansen

THE BOMBINGS at Netanya have completely overshadowed Sunday's crucial meeting of the Israeli cabinet which was supposed to take firm decisions on the contentious issue of the continued construction of Israeli settlements in the occupied terri-

Following organised Palestinian demonstrations against settlement activity. supposedly "frozen" or suspended in accordance with the Oslo accord and with an undertaking given to U.S. in exchange for loan guarantees, various Israeli decision-makers, including Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, made statements concerning the limitation of settlementbuilding and expansion. But Israeli statements did not fulfil Palestinian expectations or even meet minimum Palestinian demands for a settlement "freeze." Hence is the new slogan: "Settlements or peace.

Mr. Rabin said that no new settlements would be built and there would be no public funding for the expansion of settlements. He also stated that the satellite towns around Jerusalem would not be included in a "greater Jerusalem" area. where building could contiaue unchecked. He made it clear that the boundaries of the Jerusalem municipality, drawn after its formal annexation in 1967, would be those recognised by the government: boundaries that tripled the area of the municipality; not the boundaries for a "greater greater Jerusalem prop-osed by the settlers lobby

and the Likud and its allies.

there would be "no new

expropriations" of land for

Mr. Rabin asserted that

settlements or roads, except for land seizures for the construction of new bypass roads, providing separate passages for Israeli settlers and Palestinians: (a spunous promise because Israel has already expropriated all the so-called "state" land in the West Bank and a great deal of private land "for reasons of security.

He also insisted, however, that settlements would be permitted to expand to accommodate "natural growth" and that the government could not interfere with "private" construction. Because construction in many of the settlements has, since Israel gave the undertaking for the loan guarantees in 1992, been taken over by so-called "private" concerns acting for "private" persons or development companies, this meant that building would continue - and at more or less the present rate. And this insistence that only "private" construction would be permitted is disingenuous because such 'private" enterprise is being financed by various Israeli ministries which provide housing loans and funds for municipal services and roads, schools, and so forth, subsidising settlers who go to live in the occupied territories.

Thus, the Palestinians' only hope was that cabinet members of the leftist Meretz Party, the junior party in the coalition. would pressure the rest of the cabinet to come up with a compromise which would bring about an effective slow-down in construction. Instead, before news of the bomb attacks, the cabinet concentrated only on construction in the three sensitive satellite colonies at Maale Adumim. Betar and Givat Ze'ev around Jerusalem (which Mr. Rabin had excluded from the "greater Jerusalem" of the settlement movement). Re-sponding to criticism that

Housing Minister Benyamin Ben Eliezar had permitted building to continue uncontrolled, the cabinet appointed a ministerial committee to look into these allegations and exert some control over construction in these three settlements - and only these three. The committee was originally slated to contain six members, Mr. Rabin, Mr. Peres, Mr. Ben Eliezar, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, Communica-tions Minister Shulamit Aloni (of Meretz) and the Justice Minister, David Libai. But at the last minute the newest cabinet member, Gonen Segev, from the breaksway fac-tion of the rightist Tsomet Party, got himself appointed. The mix of ministers, settlement supporters and opponents, makes it clear that this committee will not be able to take firm decisions on further construction in even these three com-

The Netanya bombings spurred Mr. Rabin — who was joined by President Ezer Weizman — to reiterate his demand that Israelis and Palestinians should be "separated" and that the occupied territories should be "separated" from "Israel proper" so that Israelis could have security. But by refusing to take the hard, unpopular decisions on settlements — freezing their construction and entertaining the idea of removing some of them — Mr. Rabin and his government have ren-dered such "separation" im-possible. Instead, the Israelis are seeking to seize more land in order to create secure corridors through which Israelis can travel from their secure settlements in the occupied territor-ies. And by doing so, they will break up the West Bank — and Gaza — to a certain extent into segments where the Palestinian population will be forever under Israeli domina-tion and control: this violates the Oslo accord.

The slaughter at Netanya and the inability of the Rabin government to either guarantee security for its people or to take the decisions required to move the peace process for-ward stem from Israel's failure to failure to implement the Oslo accord, in spirit and in fact, with some reference to the step-by-step approach and timetable laid down at the time of signing. David Horowitz. managing editor of the moderate Jerusalem weekly "Israel Report," said last week that the only way for Mr. Rabin to recapture the promise and popularity he enjoyed when he won the 1992 election — in order to win the 1996 election
— would be for him to move forward quickly on both the Syrian and Palestinian tracks But he seems personally and politically incapable of doing

The of the

By Cathy King

HIS MAJESTY King Flus-sin recently addressed the sin recently addressed the agent need to tackle traffic agent need to tackle traffic problems. many people problems where to start wondered where to start the process. The chaotic weavings of

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Jordan, PNA

King Hussein and Mr. Arafat ams at resolving outstanding ssues between Jordan and

the PNA. Dr. Shaeth told the Egyptian Voice of Arabs racio that the meetings in Amman Pere usmed at proparing for the two readers' meeting in forder to paye the way for establishing close relations between the Jordanian and

l'alestinian peoples." He voiced hope that Mr. Argat's visit to Amman, the first since the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) thairman returned to the selffule areas in July, would

open the way for comprehenare Arab reconciliation. Dr. Shaath said trilateral lordanian-Egyptian-Palestinian meetings being held in Cairo on Palestinian refugees also aim to pave the

way for holding talks with Waier — how

pipelines, especially due to interrupted pumping, says

Dr. Salameh. Due to limitations in the quantities: of available waier, pumping cannot be communeous and therefore when it is stopped, depressunsation results in the movement of any water exsting around the pipes into the network, only in the case of corrosion, explains Dr. Salameh. The risk of contemination is intensified should there be any leak-

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Dr. Gedeon.

Commend domestic filters

they eliminates the

The rule of the horn

By Cathy King

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HIS MAJESTY King Hussein recently addressed the urgent need to tackle traffic problems, many people wondered where to start the process.

The chaotic weavings of traffic from the inside out, the outside in, the mayhem at roundabouts (who gives way anyhow?), and innumerable other law violations frequently occurring. suggest little appreciation of basic rules of the road. This is a recognised problem. But it appears that

privers have devised a substitute method (albeit inadequate) of gaining right of way and generally ruling

The method: The rule of the horn.

My first experience "real" horn-hooting was during a year I spent in Cairo.

In a guide book to Egypt, a contributor troubled himself to identify the pattern of honks used for particular situations, like patterns of flashed lights in morse

Since horn-use is as prevalent here as it is in Cairo, a similar code may be de-

Horn-honking heralds marriage convoys, but it is also used indiscriminately for almost everything else.

Approaching a junction necessitates one short parp," two short ones mean "move over, please." Repetitive honking shouts "get out of the way," a harsh, long and agressive blast tells of a driver who pulled out mindlessly, without a single glance; but, gentle and repetitive ones sing "pretty woman, walking down the street." Taxi and "service" drivers are incessant horn-hon-

If walking in the opposite direction down a one-way street, it matters not, they will still try to entice you into their vacant cabs. A little preoccupied, you would almost oblige, for

Strange as that an is, the drivers sometimes honk when the cab is full.

the hooting says you

This guide to horn-use, just as the other one proved, does not accommodate the hundreds of horn-honking combinations at hand.

Horn-blowing seems to dictate a desired response. and has supplanted rules and regulations that may otherwise prove safer.

The unpredictability of "other" drivers encourages all to adopt the easily recognised horn-pounding habit of announcing one's intention (I'm coming past on the inside even though it is possible you're turning right from the middle

As a result, horn-honking has become the rule of the road and an inherent reflex too. The former, not

the latter, is the issue. So blow your horn, if it cannot be helped, and revise the highway code to stop the carnage on the

The writer is a member of the Jordan Times editorial

Jordan, PNA plan new era

(Continued from page 1)

issues between Jordan and the PNA.

Dr. Shaath told the Egyptian Voice of Arabs radio that the meetings in Amman were aimed at preparing for the two leaders' meeting in "order to pave the way for establishing close relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples."

He voiced hope that Mr. Arafat's visit to Amman, the first since the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman returned to the selfrule areas in July, would open the way for comprehen-

sive Arab reconciliation. Palestinian meetings being held in Cairo on Palestinian way for holding talks with next two days."

King Hussein and Mr. Arafat Israel on the displaced aims at resolving outstanding Palestinians who fied Gaza and the West Bank in the 1967 war.

> Both sides, which have failed to produce concrete results in similar meetings over the past two years, hammered on a new theme of

> "We hope to put these results in front of Arafat and King Hussein at their next bo, head of the PNA delegation, said after the first round of talks on Sunday.

"There is no disparity," said Mr. Abed Rabbo. "We have agreed to start looking, Dr. Shaath said trilateral in a practical spirit, to reach a Jordanian-Egyptian- realistic and practical agreement which can be implemented and we hope to refugees also aim to pave the have positive results in the

pectedly to the Rwandan refugee camps that blight the verdant landscape of eastern Zaire. It came, apparently,

from the blazing guns of Zairean soldiers, from the arrest and expulsion to Rwanda of troublemakers and from subtle changes in the way aid agencies manage the camps.

By Terry Leonard

The Associated Press

Acts of brutality and intimidation so common two months ago are almost unheard of now. Aid workers no longer are menaced by the defeated Hutu soldiers and extremist militiamen blamed for much of the genocidal bloodbath in

While welcome, the tranquillity came so swiftly that it has left some uneasy about what changes it might

"For the last month and a half it has been pretty quiet, too quiet I would say," said Joel Boutroue,

the head of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) office in

A Hutu suspected of robbery is being chased out of a refugee camp in Zaire (AFP photo)

GOMA, Zaire - Peace has come suddenly, unex-Rwanda's former political and military leaders, accused of orchestrating the killing of an estimated 500,000 people, have too much at stake to watch the refugees, their only bargaining chip, drift home in

increasing numbers. Convincing the approx-imately 750,000 refugees around Goma to stay remains key to the exiled former regime's strategy to destabilise the new government in Kigali.

For months, former soldiers and militiamen conducted a campaign of terror in the camps to keep refugees in Zaire. Some who attempted to return home or who even advocated going back to Rwanda were brutally kilied.

Early in November, 16 aid agencies threatened to withdraw from the camps unless there was an immediate effort to improve security. U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali re-

commended sending troops to restore order. The Security Council balked, but expressed alarm at the tensions and said former soldiers and militiamen "may be preparing for an armed invasion of

Worrying tranquillity

Zairean guns, expulsions help pacify camps

Rwanda. Zairean troops killed at least 15 refugees on Nov 25 at Kitale camp north of Goma. The next day, Zairean authorities expelled 31 Hutu officials of the former government suspected of being behind the violence and intimidation in the camps. All of them were turned over to Rwandan authorities at the border and imprisoned.

Aid workers said the Zairean gunfire and expulsions sent a chilling message to

"The Kitale shooting ... dampened the enthusiasm of the young men and bandits and diminished any kind of authority they had on the population," said

Mr. Boutroue. Red Cross spokesman

Normand Lessard said that at Kibumba camp aid workers are now giving food directly to families. Mr. Boutroue said UNHCR is trying to involve women more in the distribution of supplies. Both steps are aimed at

diminishing the roles of for-

mer soldiers and militiamen. Intimidation continues, but on a lower, less violent

Mr. Boutroue and Nina Nobel, of the Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, said returning refugees are taunted. jeered and called traitors by angry crowds and their possessions are sometimes

The exiled government's g strategy seems aimed at causing unrest inside Rwanda to undermine the new government and convince refugees it is too dangerous to return.

Maj. Gen. Guy Tousignant, the U.N. military commander in Kigali, said there was strong reason to

believe former soldiers have begun a well-planned insurgency operation into Rwanda.

Mr. Boutroue said he believes former soldiers are conducting cross-border raids into Rwanda from the Goma area, but he cannot prove it.

Matthieu Ngirumpatse, president of the former ruling party, denied the government in exile is prepar-

ing a military campaign. We want negotiations, but the people now in Kigali won't talk to us. They consider us all killers," said Mr. Ngirumpatse, a lawyer identified by the human rights group African Watch as one of the masterminds of the Rwandan massacres.

Rwanda's defeated army is considered too weak, dealised and dis to amount a serious threat to retake the country. But Mr. Ngirumpatse suggested the exiled leaders could have more limited military

goals. "If the refugees are strong enough to cross the border and control two dis-

tricts, they (the government) will forget about that court," said Mr. Ngirumpatse, referring to the international war crimes tribunal. "They will talk about_negotiations."

Whatever the reason, only a small handful of the refugees in Goma attempt to return home. Of the 800 that signed up last week to return, only 200 actually

Most refugees are too frightened of the victorious Tutsi rebels to return home. And with the new tranquillity in the camps. few want to risk returning. Some say they believe propaganda that the new government is killing anyone who tries to go home.

"People are eating and camps," said Bernard Munvanziza, a refugee at Kitale camp. "If people want to go back to Rwanda they are free to go. But ! am a Hutu. I can't go back. Every Hutu who tries to go back is immediately

Water — how safe is it?

pipelines, especially due to interrupted pumping," says Dr. Salameh.

Due to limitations in the quantities, of available water, pumping cannot be continuous and therefore when it is stopped, depressurisation results in the movement of any water existing around the pipes into the network, only in the case of corrosion, explains Dr. Salameh. The risk of contamination is intensified should there be any leakage in neighbouring waste

water pipelines. "The risk factor, however, is minimal, as waste water pipes do not normally lie in the vicinity of the drinking water network and are therefore far enough to guarantee that the two types of water do not mix," Dr. Gedeon

The corroded and leaking pipes is a problem that is currently being resolved. "By the time the overall network replacement project which was started last year is accomplished, the risk of contamination will be minimised," says Dr.

Salameh. Dr. Gedeon said the Water Authority directs special attention to monitoring and controlling the quality of water on a daily basis by collecting samples from pumping stations, reservoirs and the network. "We collect on average 1,000 samples per month and perform all the tests of compliance with WHO regulations. We also regularly assess the efficiency of water treatment processes,"

says Dr. Gedeon. Dr. Gedeon does not recommend domestic filters as they eliminates the

(Continued from page 1) amounts of safe residual chlorine required to kill any regrowing bacteria as an extra precaution. "These filters can be selfdefeating at times," he

says.

The origin of people's uncertainties about the water quality arose from an unfortunate incident of contamination that occurred seven years ago, ex-plains Dr. Gedeon. "Naturally people are generally resistant to change, particularly when it concerns ideas or impressions." Dr. Gedeon says. Moreover, some doctors are more inclined to relate certain health problems to the readily available and rather "easy" factor of water than go through the complexities of a proper diagnosis, according to Dr. Gedeon.

For instance, many people wrongfully relate the prevalence of kidney stones among residents of Jordan to the quality of water without looking further into other possible causes or undergoing a thor-ough analysis of all factors

concerned. "Kidney stones come as an outcome of the style of life more than anything else," maintains Dr. Gedeon. Should the water be contaminated, an epidemic will plague members of all the homes through which the contaminated pipeline pas-ses, and no such incidents have been reported for many

years," Dr. Gedeon affirms. "Our responsibility, however, does not exceed the point where the water reaches the domestic meter. Any defects in the domestic water tanks or the piping system at home must be adjusted by the in-habitants, says Dr. Gedeon.

Up to the point where the water reaches the homes, "the quality of the water is one of the best in the region. There is no point in using filters or boiling the water. I myself drink it as it comes out straight from the tap." Dr. Gedeon

Mubarak:

(Continued from page 1) benefit to you or to any other country which supports these groups."

No date was given for the interview, which the New Yorker said took place in Mr. Mubarak's Palace at Heliopolis.

The Egyptian president dismissed the rebellious Gamaa Al Islamiya as "not Islamic. None of them are. They have nothing to do with Islam. They want to seize power, pure and simple and who are they? belly dancers and drummers from the slams...'

The same article contains an interview with Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, an Egyptian currently on trial in New York for an alleged plan to bomb the United Nations, Federal Bureau of Investigation headquarters and other buildings in New York and tunnels under the Hudson River to New Jersey.

Without offering support, Sheikh Abul Rahman — interviewed in jail - claimed Egypt is ripe for rebellion.
"You've seen disaffection all over Egypt:

- "We control the student unions at the universities, yet when lawyers demonsrate, they are beaten back with tear gas and clubs. "We control the student

Unions at the universities, yet the representatives are being carted off to jail...

 Blue collar workers have been striking more than ever before. Everyone, from the extreme righ to the extreme left, has lost faith in this regime on every level of society, people are in conflict with this regime."

In answer to a question, Sheikh Abdul Rahman denied he ordered the death of Nobel Prize-winning author Naguib Mahfouz, 83, who -barely survived a stabbing in the neck in October of last

Mr Mahfouz wrote a book called "Children of Gebe-laawi," which Sheikh Abdul Rahman reportedly compared with Salman Rushdie's "The Satanic Verses," which resulted in an Islamic death warrant or "Fatwa" for Mr.

Rushdie from Iran. The New Yorker reported the Sheikh said of the Arab World's only nobel laureate in literature:

"Islamic law calls on these people to repent and if they do not, they will be killed." Sheikh Abdul Rahman told the New Yorker:

"Naguib Mahfouz has been around for years, and if our youth wanted to attack him they would have done it long ago. Naguib Mahfouz is not a target for the Islamists. As I said before, we know where he sits, where he walks...' Mr. Mubarak told the magazine the youth who stab-

bed the author knew nothing about the holy Koran. "He was simply paid to do what he did. It's all a matter of money."

Rabin wants total separation

(Continued from page 1) Muslim fundamentalism and some countries in the region," he added, accusing Syria of sheltering groups fighting against Israel.

Hundreds of anti-

government protesters shout-ing "Death to the Arabs"

demonstrated on the streets of Jerusalem and at the scene of the bombing at Beit Lid junction near Netanya.

Heavily manned army roadblocks kept about 50,000 Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip from

Europe media shine a light into every corner of 'foreign' politicians' lives

But some are starting to expose their own

By Arthur Alien

The Associated Press BONN — The newspaper Bild, the giant of Europe's tabloids, ladles out a frothy soup of topless models, bottomless scandals, horoscopes of the rich and ridiculous, disasters in all their

gory glory.
The Duchess of York's sucked toes, Claudia Schiffer's insured breasts, Prince Charles' hairy chest, the headless suicide on the train tracks. Bild had them all in the 4.3 million copies it

prints every day.

One thing Bild doesn't generally reveal, however, is the peccadiloes of German politicians. Its 700 reporters collect plenty of dirty linen, but Bild stashes it in the file cabinets — in the national interest, says senior editor Kai Diekmann.

"If you shine a light into every corner of a politician's life, as they do in the U.S., no intelligent person will run for office," Diekmann said. "By witholding the information, we're helping maintain the high standards of Germany's political culture."

Anyone who has read Bild's slash-and-burn attacks may take Diekmann's judiciousness with a grain of salt. Bild has no qualms about publishing dirt on the British royal family, for example.

But when it comes to their own political class, the news media in Germany

and elsewhere in continental Europe generally follow the rule that some "character" traits are none of the public's business.

A survey by German and American professors found that half of German and Italian journalists polled agreed with the statement. journalists should not explore the private lives of public officials." That compared to 11 per cent of American journalists and 17 per cent of those in

The difference grows out of the deep-seated English and American concerns with morality in politics, said Thomas Patterson, a Syracuse University professor who helped conduct the study.

The French media unanimonsly condemned Paris Match for breaking a longheld taboo against reporting on the private lives of politicians when it revealed in November that President Francois Mitterrand had a 20-year-old, out-of-wedlock daughter.

Match said the woman had become a quasi-public figure, often appearing in public with her father, Mr. Mitterrand, who is 78; ill and nearing the end of his long career, didn't plan to sue under France's strict privacy laws.

His quote in Le Monde's headline - "so what?" said it all.

The French do not think marital fidelity has any

bearing on public trust. An item that would have been tabloid fodder for weeks in Britain vanished quickly.

"Let he who is without sin cast the first sone," the newspaper Le Figaro said in a swipe at "Anglo-Saxon puritanism." But despite the sneering at American and British news media, changes are evident in Europe. New pri-

vate TV networks and glos-

sy magazines, fighting for

new markets, do not hesitate to bring sex into poli-In their eagerness for exposure, some politicians will expose themselves. On Schreine-makers Live, a talk show on Germany's private SAT-1 network, political leaders volunteer to be hooked up to a toy lie

tions about their sexual interests. "People are crazy for sex gossip, and the competition brings it out," said Matthias Prinz, a Hamburg libel lawyer. "There's a gentlemen's agreement not to write about (Chancellor Helmut) Kohl's sex life, for example, but when someone breaks that rule watch

detector and answer ques-

everyone else follow." A recent rule bender was the flashy Tango magazine. In its first issue, in September, it reported that Mr. Kohl's 61-year-old wife, Hannelore, had been "deeply injured... like many others at the time" during her flight from the

Soviet army as a child in

the company of the second seco

This was widely read to mean she had been raped, although the magazine did not explicitly say that. Mrs. Kohl's aide, Michael Roik, said that was not true.

In November, Bild and a few other tabloids published a nude photograph of Damgar Woehrl, a conservative member of parliament. It was taken from a 1971 film in which she and some other Bavarian voungsters froicked sans lederhosen and dirndls.

"Will she resign?" Bild screamed. The question provided the justification for the photograph, but it wasn't serious. No one in Germany was shocked.

"The only dirty thing is the guy who sent copies of the videotape to Bild," said Lieselott Blunck, a Social democratic opponent of Ms. Woehrl in parliament.

In Italy, land of the paparazzi, the Milan newspaper La Voce apologised after being attacked for running photos of Letizia Moratti, president of the state television network, with her dress hiked up in an unguarded moment at a

parliamentary hearing. The Norwegian media are even more respectful. When Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland's son died in 1992, only the tabloid Sondag-Sondag printed what she asked the newspapers to hush up - that her son had committed

BEIRUT (R) — The cause inflation and bring Lebanese parliament began debating the 1995 state budget Monday amid concerns about the proposed 43 per cent deficit and the government's ability to hold to

the projection. Parliament must approve the 5,500 billion Lebanese lira (\$3.3 billion) draft capital flo which forecasts income at 43 countries l per cent of expenditure - by four-fold i Jan. 31 or the government

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and Mexic may promulgate it by decree. Economists and bankers say they fear that spending and the deficit will surge beyond affirmed : the budget forecast as they tries' shar did in 1994, and this could

pressure on the Lebanese

Many economists and financiers say stabilisation of the lira is the main achievement of billionaire Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri in his 27 months in office.

The 43 per cent deficit proposed for the 1995 budget compares with a 45 per cent deficit approved in the 1994 budget law.

But economists say the 1994 deficit actually ended up as at least 53 per cent and may have been over 58 per cent as the cash-strapped government continued postwar reconstruction. They say a similarly large ballooning of the 1995 deficit beyond the official forecast could cause inflationary and

currency problems. The parliamentary debate was expected to be tough after the house finance committee, which has studied the draft for weeks, also said it expected 1994 expenditure

budget forecast. The issue could provide a battleground between Mr. Hariri and parliament speaker Nabih Berri, who is seen as his main political rival. Many

and the deficit to exceed the

members of parliament dislike the government's policy of mounting domestic and foreign debt and are critical of Mr. Hariri.

In a report to be read to the house, the finance committee said neither the 1995 budget draft nor the budgets for the past two years reflected real spending.

The committee blamed the 1993 and 1994 discrepancies on the government's use of additional credits to finance its activities and said it expected "even more" use of such credits in 1995. It also criticised the budget draft as "structurally weak," saying public sector salaries and social welfare payments plus debt servicing totalled more than the entire proposed 1995 income of 3,150 billion lira (\$1.92 billion).

The report echoed a weekend complaint by Francois Basile, president of the Lebanese Banks Association. that past official forecasts of budget surpluses within a few years were "unreal."

Mr. Basile said that future heavy government borrowing for reconstruction raised the possibility of monetary insta-

worries overdone Economists say Japan quake

at Barclays de Zoete Wedd

emerging TOKYO (R) — Tokyo largest s shares dived nearly six per foreign in cent Monday and the yen inflows to weakened as last week's ear-Present thquake sent growing shock-waves through the Japanese port on debt and

economy. senior We But private economists said investor worries were probably overdone.

The key Nikkei share average plunged 1,054 points, or 5.60 per cent, to 17,785 — its globalisa liberalisa[.] lowest in more than a year. As shares slid, the yen also Investo fell against the dollar and the ico after mark. In late Tokyo trade, end pes the dollar climbed to around 100.15 yen, its highest level since October 1993. lock, coa

Analysts said investors had three main fears - that quake damage would balloon vell beyond initial estimates, that the fallout would cause tremors in Japan's already debt-ridden financial sector. and that a long-sought economic recovery would not cade agu materialise as soon as had been hoped.

The tremor, the worst to

has left 5,002 dead, 26,253 injured and 300,000 people homeless. Most of the casualties and damage were in the port of Kobe.

Tadayo Homma, the Bank of Japan (BOJ) branch manager from Kobe's neighbour city of Osaka, gave an unusually explicit and negative assessment of the economic impact of the earthquake.

It is inevitable that negative effects on Japan's economic recovery will emerge (from the earthquake) in many respects," he told a news conference.

He said the central bank saw no risk, yet, that Japan's financial system would collapse. "There has been no major, systemic risk (to the Japanese financial system) so far," he said.

Foreign investors have become particularly jittery. "Foreigners are concerned. They look at the Los Angeles quake and remem-

(Securities) Japan. "All the initial estimates were so wide of the mark that ... people are just prepared to add another nought on the end (of existing estimates," he

Economists said last week

that the earthquake would

dampen economic growth in

the first one or two quarters of the calender year but was likely to bolster growth thereafter as demand rose on the back of reconstruction On Monday, many clung to that general view, although

some said it could take longer

before any positive impact

emerged. "We haven't changed our view of the impact," said Merrill Lynch Japan economist Ron Bevaqua. "We see one quarter negative — one per cent of GDP (gross domestic product) and in the April-June quarter (public and private spending) will outweigh the loss in produc-

that while the market plunge was triggered by pessimism about the quake, much of the root cause lay within the market. "The outlook for the market was not good through the end of March and the earthquake was a trigger for selling," said a Daiwa Research Institute economist. Still, confidence in the recovery has been shaken.

Share market analysts said

"The market had basically priced itself to get two per cent growth and any surprises were expected to be on the upside," said Kenneth Courtis, chief economist at Deutsche Bank Capital Markets (Asia). "People were keeping their fingers crossed that that would happen ... but my sense is that we're getting a reassessment of that.'

Jittery investors battered bank shares Monday, worried that the already debtladen sector would suffer as companies and individuals affected by the quake failed to repay loans.

rates due to greater demand for capital to rebuild the quake-hit region dealt bank shares another blow.

Financial analysts said. however, most banks' bottom lines were unlikely to suffer greatly.

"I don't think what's going on in the market is a fair reflection of the true impact on banks and insurers. It's overselling, but it reflects a lack of information and investors' continued nervouseness about the pace of recovery," said Brian Waterhouse. analyst at James Capel Paci-

fic Ltd. The dollar railied on the share price plunge, which also strengthened financial markets' belief that the Bank of Japan would be forced to keep a loose grip on the

money market. "This activity (in the currency market) has nothing really to do with the dollar and everything to do with the yen, which has fallen in symrepay loans. pathy with stocks," a U.S. Fears of higher interest bank dealer said.

ber how badly everybody got it wrong, said David Threadgold, financial analyst Russia reforms adrift, West must help — minister

MOSCOW (R) — Russia's deputy finance minister warned Monday that reforms were drifting amid political and economic uncertainty over Chechenya and said the West must give money to Russia to save President Boris Yeltsin.

Sergei Aleksashenko said: 'We are floating. No one can tell you the direction of Russia's economic policy today.'

The West was "hostage" to Russian policy, declared Mr. Aleksashenko, one of the few reformers left in Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin's conservative government.

He said in an interview that instability over the military drive to crush secessionist Chechen rebels could hit prodemocracy, free-market reforms backed by Western

"We have parliamentary elections this year. There will be political instability. It's easy to predict who wins elections at times of political instability - fascists and communists.

Elections to both chambers of parliament are scheduled for December. Presidential elections are set for June

Mr. Aleksashenko said: "Economic and political instability is not the best of conditions needed ahead of presidential elections. The West is the hostage to Rus-

Mr. Aleksashenko said the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the West should relax purse strings if they wanted a stable Russia.

"Not only the IMF, but the West in general have no other choice," Mr. Alek-sashenko said. Otherwise, he said: "The budget will be unbalanced, there will be political instability."

The war in Chechenva is the latest in a series of setbacks to a credible, deflationary economic policy and a tight 1995 budget Moscow

says will secure a \$6.25 billion

Moscow has been trying to guess which way the economy will swing amid parliamentary demands to change an already-diluted 1995 budget to include the cost of the Chechenva war.

deputies hostile to reform, refused to pass the 1995 budget Friday. Its approval is one condition for the release

Mr. Aleksashenko said military action in Chechenya had cost the government 800 billion roubles (\$200 million) so far, but was unlikely to increase state spending much

A top IMF delegation in costing us much. The price of

Parliament, packed with of the IMF standby loan.

Parliament's budget deficit of 73.2 trillion roubles (\$18.5 billion) compares to a planned government gap of 71.7 trillion (\$18.1 billion), or 7.7 per cent of gross domestic

product.

in the short term. "I can't imagine our eco-

nomy being more militarised

than it is today," he said. The real cost of Chechenya IMF standby loan. would be political instability, which would undermine the government's cardibility on "Up to now, the war is not

> political instability is bigger. How can you measure the cost of political instability?" Moscow is already awash with rumours of government

measures to reassert state the economy. Reform findges by Mr. Chernomyrdin and Mr. Yeltsin have failed to convince

Russia' financial markets, driving the rouble lower and forcing the state to offer higher yields on domestic debt. The rouble has fallen 11.2 per cent against the dollar so

far this year, outpacing 10.4 per cent inflation.
"If inflation is a major indicator of reform, it means

we have no reform now. For months we've been talking.

We're just wasting time. Mr. Aleksashenko said. The Russian budget already assumes foreign credits of \$12 billion and bankers say Russia may have to use inflationary central bank loans if Western cash does not materialise.

An IMF decision to hold up loans to Russia could scare off Western investors and amount to a noconfidence vote in Mr. Yelt-

"Yeltsin has almost lost everything," reformist economist Andrei Illarionov, said. "The world should understand this, just the way it was with former Soviet

leader Mikhail Gorbachev." "Reforms should be powered from the inside. It is impossible to reinforce reforms in Russia by giving money. The world does not have that much money." he told Reuters.

first half of 1994.

(GDP), the total value of good and services produced, rose by a preliminary four per cent in the last three months compared with the final quarter of 1993. The growth rate is down

out strains emerging.

growth rate had become more sustainable since the

Analysts were sceptical that the reduction in the pace of growth would be enough to prevent the economy from overheating as demand outstripped production capacity and inflation

They said the new figures revived concern that the authorities would have to boost the cost of borrowing to reduce the rate at which the economy was expanding. Base bank lending rates are currently at 6-1/4 per cent.

an early February base-rate rise," said London-based economist Marian Bell at the Royal Bank of Scotland. The next interest-rate policy meeting by Britain's monetary authorities will be hold on Feb. 2.

Most economists predict that Bank of England Governor Eddie George and Chancellor of the Exchequer Kenneth Clarke, who has the

Iran is incoherent and incom-50 per cent on cooking oil. egg and poultry. This rise has provoked strong criticism and disconsingle rate for exchange and tent among the country's 60million population, especially as inflation is running at an rent rates again: A subsidised

annual rate of above 60 per

cent in contrast to bank de-

valuating the currency Iran expects a reduction in

of some \$30 billion.

century.

its hard currency earnings

this year due to the scheduled

repayment of short and

medium-term foreign debts

The payment would eat

away as much as \$7 billion of

the country's \$16-\$17 billion

hard currency earnings each

year until the end of the

The collapse of the rival

has also provoked a sharp

increase in the price of goods,

especially foodstuff: 10 per

cent rise on meat, 20 per cent

on cheese and rice and up to

posit interest rates of 15 per "The people are critical of the soaring prices. The government should keep its promises. Why isn't the fight

against the inflation taken seriously?" Jomhuri Islami newspaper, close to Islamic hardliners, asked last week.

British economy grows apace, sparking rate rise fears

Iran faces new monetary crisis

rise in the price of gold which

has gained more than 30 per

cent in value since early Janu-

This sharp rise is a con-

sequence of a rush by many

small investors and specula-

tors to obtain the precious

metal as an insurance against

The demand for gold has also been rising because

many investors avoid the risk

of acquiring dollars — an

alternative form of insurance

against inflation - on the

prehensible," said a Euro-

Two years after adopting a

scrapping its multi-tier sys-

tem. Iran now has six diffe-

rate of 70 rivals to the dollar.

a floating rate of 1,750 riyals,

a rate reserved for exports

and for foreign companies put at 2,345, a "free" rate of

2.680, the black market rate

and the transfer abroad rate

Western experts in Tehran

believe the rival will continue

its downward slide and the

government resort to de-

of 3,430.

pean expert here Sunday.

"The financial politics of

soaring inflation.

black market.

LONDON (R) — Britain's economy grew at a pace not seen for six years in the last quarter of 1994, official figures showed Monday, and financial analysts said this made an interest-rate rise soon even more likely. Gross domestic product

in the throes of a new monet-

ary crisis, prompted by falls

in the value of the riyal, a

sharp rise in the price of gold.

the emergence of a black

market for the dollar and

In a bid to ward off hard

currency fluctuations, the

government has frozen the

But the rival has continued

its downward slide and lost 15

per cent of its value against

other major foreign curren-

cies in the past three weeks. While allowing other ma-

jor currencies to float freely

against the rival, the central

bank fixed the dollar at 2.680

riyals, triggering the emerg-ence of a black market for the

It is the first time a black

market has been created in

the hard currency market

since economic liberalisation

programmes were launched

following the 1980-1988 war

against Iraq.
The dollar is now trading at

around 3,300 riyals on the

black market and even 3,430

if the money is to be deli-

vered abroad through foreign

The freezing of the dollar

has also provoked a sharp

hank transfers.

greenback.

skyrocketing inflation.

rate of the dollar.

slightly from the 4.1 per cent rate recorded in the third quarter of 1994 and the 4.3 per cent of the second, figures from the Central Statistical Office showed.

The economy last grew at this pace in the final quarter of 1988. Economists have said that, historically, the economy can grow at a rate of two to 2-1/4 per cent with-

But the British Treasury, welcoming the slowdown in the year-on-year GDP rate in the new figures, said the

would be forced higher.

"This leave us on track for

final say on base rates, will raise rates by half a percentage point. They expect the authorities to act sooner rather than later to ensure inflation does not rise any further.

First signs that price pressures were mounting came last week when both the retail price index and factory gate prices showed an acceleration in the rate of increase. .

In addition, according to labour-market figures, unemployment was still falling rapidly in December another sign of unabated economic strength, the econom-

Politically, Chancellor Clarke could also be tempted to push the cost of borrowing higher soon to ensure there is enough distance between an unpopular rate rise and elections, which, some commentators speculate, might be held as early as 1996.

However, the ruling Conservatives' unpopularity might persuade Mr. Clarke to hold off for now, others say.

Zaire inflation drops to 6,000%

KINSHASA (R) — Zaire annual inflation fell to 6,030 per cent in 1994 from 8,828 per cent the year before, the United States embassy economics unit have said.

Local analysts welcomed the decline but said it still left battling Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo a long way to go to reach his 1995 target of 20 per cent.

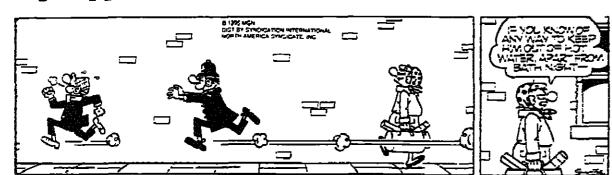
Elected by parliament last June to head a government of national unity, Mr. Kengo has vowed to rescrie the crippled economy, shake up the civil service and stamp out endemic corruption.

He won a major battle when a decree by President Mobutu Sese Seko ratified Mr. Kengo's choice of his party comrade Djamboleka Okitongono as new governor of Zaire's central bank.

Soon after taking office Mr. Kengo suspended Mobutu-appointed governor Ndiang Kaboul. Mr. Mobutu finally agreed to dismiss him in November after an audit found he made huge unauthorised payments in defiance of a government freeze on the bank's transactions.



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff





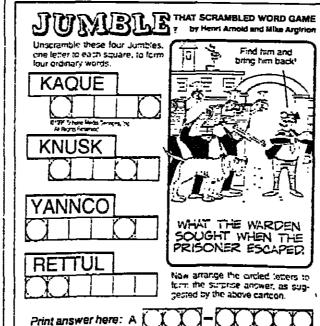
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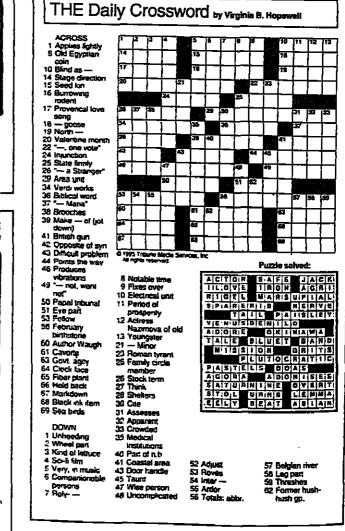
"Potato chips help me lose weight. They crunch so loud I can't hear the other snacks calling me into the kitchen!



Jumbles: PANSY GOING UNIQUE VANISH

Answer: How the busy deejay's job left him — SPINNING

Horoscope not received



Jordan Times Tel 667171

husiness

A review deconomic news the Arabic press

DB to increase lending

to raise the ceiling of the industrial De-Bank (IDB) by in million, from ID 11.5 河 million. This sonal financing is to help pB expand its pending model industries. Furthme it is expected that (aural Bank will allop ID 10 million to be the IDB to Jordaandustrial exporters. A JD 10 million exfor industrial exporabs year was fully utily The IDB has also and a low-interest (six (and) financing from the and Bank to be relent to :mall-scale industries and aforaft fund at an 8.5 per anterest. In the area of compent, the IDB rea obtained a DM5 millong-term loan to finance acts for the protection of environment and the demends to extend loans a per cent interest to and industries to set up nes for environmental nation (Al Rai).

-Royal Jordanian has milied a study on leasing a illegar capacity aircraft ham unspecified company cente on short regional us in light of the new ana (Al Rai).

The Civil Aviation Auany is negotiating with and Russia increasing mmber of flights been lordan and these two Connes (Al Raio).

The government is likely approve a request from da Broadcasting Coronto lease all the facthbelonging to the Jordan ior IV. radio and cinema aduction (Al Ra'i).

According to the dary-general of the Jora Valley Authority, the ⇔m King Talal Ďam is omaminated and it can

AU.S. consultancy firm aidened from among five stational companies to the development of pros well as ecological facof the project (Al Ra'i).

lordanian clothes worth 1000 and shoes worth were recently exlo Yemen. A shipof cookers worth will be sent to Yebefore the end of this th (Sawt Al Shaab).

Contil a tourism transport alation is issued, the Cen-Traffic Committee has led temporary permits to Jordan Express Tourist Sapon (JETT) company. to nun buses on the Damascus, Cairo. and Kuwait, Beirnt.

The Jordanian Businesssociation started preons for a delegation to Pain France and Debetween March 28 and 18 1995, to enhance ties with the busiorganisations in those (Al Ra'i).

An to organise this According to Mayor on Abbadi, the site of Market will be chosen

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The Central Bank is ex-

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tender documents consultancy company is acted to ready the necesdocuments and other redata within two weeks repare the way for more tailised studies to specify and look into the econolechnical, financial, so-

Alia Airport, King Swall Rum (Al Ra'i).

Animan will be setflower market" in A the into considerating needed area, the seeds to population cen-

Business & Finance

ing the currency.

expects a reduction in the scheduled short and ment of short and second are \$30 billion.

payment would earning 5 516-517 billing and the end of the

collapse of the males provoked a shap se in the price of good, ise on meat, 20 per tent cent on cooking of poultry. s rise has provoted enticism and dison-mong the country's 60.

mong the countrys 60.

The population, especially a facts of above 60 per countries to bank de countries facts of the countries facts of the countries of the c interest rates of 15 per a te bechie sie cuticifal can should keep in ises. Why isn't the figures the inflation lakes to islamic tame.

mery asked last week apace.

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** The Jordanian Businessmen Association started preparations for a delegation to visit Spain, France and Denmark between March 28 and April 8, 1995, to enhance business ties with the business organisations in those countries (Al Ra'i).

** The Municipality of Greater Amman will be setting up a "flower market" in an attempt to organise this trade. According to Mayor Mamdouh Abbadi, the site of the market will be chosen after taking into consideration the needed area, the parking availability and the closeness to population centres (Al Ra'i)

Glaxo makes £8.9b bid for Wellcome

al industry was changing at an unprecedented pace. He said

the enlarged group would be-

There would also be signi-

ficant opportunities to im-

prove efficiency, and oppor-

tunities for non-prescription

develop.

drug sales.

COMPANY'S NAME

RAMPS

ARAB SANK JORDAN NATIONAL BANK JORDAN NATIONAL BANK / NEW BANK OF JORDAN THE HOUSING BANK JORDAN KUMAIT BANK JORDAN GULF BANK

JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK UNION BANK FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT BUSINESS BANK JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK

ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE

JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER /NEW JORDAN HOTEL & TOURISM VEHICLES OWNERS FEDERATION ARAS INTERNATIONAL HOTELS

JORDAN TOBACCO & CIGARETTES THE JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES

SERVICES

THE ARAB POTASE/NEW

INSURANCE SECTOR

JORDAN MATIONAL SHIPPING LINES MATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES JORDAN GULF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION / ALRA'I

JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION / ALRA'I
UNITED MIDDLE EAST & COMMODORE HOTELS
ARAB INTER. FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION
JORDANIAN EXPATRIATES INVESTMENT HOLDING

JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINARY
JORDAN TANNING
THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL

THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTU
THE JORDAN WORSTED MILLS
ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING
THE JORDAN PIPES MANUFACTURING
JORDAN PAPER & CARDBOARTURING
ARAB CHEMICAL DETERGENTS INDUSTRIES
RAFIA INDUSTRIES
ARAB HUVESTMENT & INERNATIONAL TRADE
ARAB ALUMINIUM INDUSTRY
LIMESTER OF THE WORLD THE

INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY
ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING
NATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRY

JORDAN INDUSTRIES & MATCH/JIMCO

iordan industrial resources co

NATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING

ARAB CENTER FOR PHARM. & CHEMICALS

INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARKET VALUE TRADED IN PARALLEL MARKET

JORDAN ROCKWOOL INDUSTRIES ALADDIN INDUSTRIES

KAWTHER INVESTMENT UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES

JORDAN SULPHO-CHEMICALS

GRAND TOTAL

SECTOR

BEIT ELMAL SAVINGEINVESTMENT FOR HOUSING AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT ARAB BANKING CORPORATION/JORDAN PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK.

SECTOR

LONDON (R) — Europe's leading pharmaceuticals firm Glaxo PLC launched a surprise £8.9 billion (\$14,11 billion) bid for Britain's Wellcome PLC Monday, a move which would create the world's biggest drugs com-

usiness

aily

eat

A review

of economic news

from the Arabic press

IDB to

increase

lending

The Central Bank is ex-

pected to raise the ceiling of

credit to the Industrial Development Bank (IDB) by ID 8.5 million, from JD 11.5

million to JD 20 million. This

additional financing is to help

the IDB expand its pending

to national industries. Furth-

ermore, it is expected that

the Central Bank will allo-

cated JD 10 million to be

relent by the IDB to Jorda-

nian industrial exporters. A-

similar JD 10 million ex-

tended for industrial expor-

ters last year was fully utilised. The IDB has also

obtained a low-interest (six

per cent) financing from the Central Bank to be relent to

the small-scale industries and

handicraft fund at an 8.5 per

cent interest. In the area of

environment, the IDB re-

cently obtained a DM5 mil-

lion long-term loan to finance

projects for the protection of

the environment and the

bank intends to extend loans

at six per cent interest to

national industries to set up

schemes for environmental

th Royal Jórdanian has

completed a study on leasing

two 50-seat capacity aircraft

from an unspecified company

routes in light of the new

☆☆ The Civil Aviation Au-

thority is negotiating with

Spain and Russia increasing

the number of flights be-

tween Jordan and these two-

⇒ ★ The government is likely

to approve a request from

Jordan Broadcasting Cor-poration to lease all the facili-

ties belonging to the Jordan Co. for TV, radio and cinema

* ★ According to the secretary-general of the Jordan Valley Authority, the water in King Talal Dam is

not contaminated and it can

be used for irrigation (Al

ቱቱ A U.S. consultancy firm was selected from among five

international companies to

prepare tender documents for the development of pro-

jects in the Jordan valley.

The consultancy company is

expected to ready the neces-

sary documents and other related data within two weeks

to prepare the way for more

specialised studies to specify

costs and look into the econo-

mic, technical, financial, so-

cial as well as ecological fac-

tors of the project (Al Ra'i).

\$274,000 and shoes worth

\$92,000 were recently ex-

ported to Yemen. A ship-

ment of cookers worth \$261,000 will be sent to Yemen before the end of this month (Sawt Al Shaab).

** Until a tourism transport

regulation is issued, the Cen-

tral Traffic Committee has

granted temporary permits to

the Jordan Express Tourist Transport (JETT) company.

The permits allow the com-

pany to run buses on the

routes to Damascus, Cairo.

Baghdad, Kuwait, Beirut,

Aqaba as well as to the

Queen Alia Airport, King Hussein Bridge, Ma'in, Petra and Wadi Rum (Al Ra'i).

production (Al Ra'i).

protection (Al Ra'i).

peace era (Al Ra'i).

countries (Al Ra'i).

Glaxo said the Wellcome Trust, a charitable organisation that owns 39.5 per cent of Wellcome PLC, had agreed to accept the offer, which would be Britain's biggest-ever takeover, subject to London High Court approval.

Wellcome said its board was meeting to consider the terms of the bid and a further statement would be made

Tuesday. Glaxo is offering £722 (\$1,144) cash and 47 new Glaxo shares for every 100 Wellcome shares. At Friday's closing prices, this represents a 49 per cent premium over Wellcome's closing share price of 688 pence.

Wellcome shares soared about £3 on the news, touching a high of \$10 (\$15.85) before easing back to 965.

But Glaxo shares fell, trading down 521/2 pence at 591 after a low of 585, as some analysts questioned the wisdom of the merger of two companies which both stand to lose U.S. patens on major drugs in 1997. Wellcome's best-selling

Zovirax, an anti-Herpes drug, goes off patent in the U.S. in two years, while Glaxo could face generic competition to its ulcer drug Zantac, the world's biggest selling medicine.

Steve Plag, analyst at Natwest Securities, however, pointed to hundreds of millions of pounds (dollars) the firms could save in annual costs by pooling their re-

Glaxo chief executive and deputy chairman, Sir Richard Sykes, said the pharmaceutic-

Jordan Times **Financial** Markets Cairo Amman Bank

Currency	New York Class	Tekue Close
	Per 2011/95	IMP25:1 45
Sterling Pound	1.5888	1.5863*
Deutsche Mark	7.5116	1.5127
Swiss Franc	1.2702	1.2720*
French Franc	5.2335	5.2438**
Japanese Yen	99.42	99.93
European Curreny Unit	1.2500	1.2475**

Currency		TT
Extracurrency	Interest	Rates

Сигтевс	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.75	6.86	6.56	7.00
Sterling Pound	6.00	6.37	6.81	7.37
Deutsche Mark	4.75	4.87	5.12	5.62
Swiss Franc	3.68	3.87	4.12	4.50
French Franc	5.31	5.62	6.00	6.02
Japanese Yen	2.06	2.12	2.12	2.37
European Currency Unit	5.79	6.06	6-31	7.00

Precions A	Arthis			Date: 25,	/1/1995
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm"	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Cm
Gold	384.85	7.65	Silver .	1.90	0.111

control point of Johnson Extensions world in		23/1/19
Сштейсу	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6960	0.6980
Sterling Pound	1.1030	1.1085
Deutsche Mark	0.4596	0:4619
Swiss Franc	0.5477	0.5504
French Franc	0.1328	0.1335
Japanese Yen°	0.6961	0.0446
Dutch Guilder	0.4115	0.4154
Swedish Krona		******
lialian Lira ^c	0.0439	0.0441
Belgian Franc		******

Other Currenties	Date	Date: 23,1/194	
Сигтевсу	Bid	Offer	
Bahraini Dinar	1.8304	1.8450	
Lebanese Lira*	0.041125	0.042370	
Saudi Riyal	0.1850	0.1863	
Kewalti Dinar	1.3170	2.3680	
Qatari Riyal	0.1900	0.1913	
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2140	
Omeni Riyal	1,7996	1.8100	
UAE Dirham	0.1889	0.1898	
Greek Drachma*	0.2400	0.3215	
Cypriot Pound	1.4450	1.5515	
Per 100	<u> </u>		

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Monday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs 1.4188/98 1.5134/44 1.6972/82 1.2700/10 31.19/23 5.2370/20 1584.8/5.8 100.10/19 7.4375/75

> 5.9665/15 \$1.5860/70

Swiss francs Belgian francs French francs Italian lire Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns 6.6180/30 Danish crowns

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Dutch guilders

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participate in a world leading pharmaceutical group," Sir

Sykes said. nefit from a broader range of Glaxo was already drugs, improved research and Europe's largest phardevelopment prospects and potential for improved access maceuticals company in to healthcare providers as terms of sales. health management systems

Glaxo, which has a cash pile estimated at some £2.4 billion pounds (\$3.80 billion). had been expected to make some kind of move this year after staying on the sidelines last year as the shake up of "Wellcome shareholders the world's drug industry are being offered full value as gathered pace.

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ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST

Russia Zil car firm: closes

MOSCOW (R) — All 12 plants of car firm Zil, famous for turning out vehicles from presidential limousines to heavy-duty trucks, has closed down as the company had no money to buy integral car parts, senior company officials said.

Valery Saikin, the plant's general director, told a news conference the firm needed one trillion roubles (\$260 million) to overcome the crisis, but credits appeared highly

PREV. CLOSING CLOSING PRICE PRICE

184.000 184.500 4.370 4.460 4.300 4.280 3.650 3.650 5.950 6.030

5.100 3.550 4.300 3.250 1.470

1.550 1.590 INDEX NUMBER: 159.82 CHANGE : +0.777

2.550 2.600 EFFET THE THE TOTAL FOR THE TOTA

6.850 6.750 4.920 4.950 3.440 3.410 2.200 2.310 1.240 1.220 12.250 12.100

INDEX NUMBER: 133.36

24.930 26.180

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7.500 4.300 7.950

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.820 4.800 1.940 2.720 1.790

2.180 2.220

INDEX NUMBER: 127.87 CHANGE : +0.122

INDEX NUMBER: 144.65 CHANGE : -0.187

1.540 1.490 6.050

2.410 3.570 1.370

2.940 5.250 9.560 7.500 4.330 7.900 5.300 2.750 4.200 15.600 2.790 1.040 7.150

1.440 4.100 2.740 1.530 4.450

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3.550 4.346 3.250 1.500 4.150

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unlikely. Zil, formerly one of Russia's biggest industrial enterprises, owes 420 billion roubles (\$110 million) to the state and suppliers. The board of directors will hold a meeting on Jan. 24 to 25 to search for a solution to the

"But if no ways are found, we will have to discuss nationalisation of the plant," Mr. Saikin said.

The company, one of the first to start wooing Western investors, ceased to manufacture its mademark sleek black

Zil limousines, once a symbol of power in the former Soviet Union, and switched to trucks instead.

Zil was privatised in 1992, the workforce slashed from 120,000 to 85,000 with a view to cutting it further to 65,000 as part of a vast reorganisation programme.

But defence spending cuts and the decline in agriculturee hit the customer base and production slumped from a peak of 208,000 vehicles eight years ago to 55,000 in

Qatar confirms \$4b liquefied natural gas deal with Enron

DOHA (R) — Qatari offi-cials confirmed Monday that a letter of intent had been signed with Enron Corp to develop a massive new liquefied natural gas (LNG) project aimed at the Israeli and Indian markets.

The Wall Street Journal on Jan. 19 reported a tentative agreement reached between the U.S. firm and Qatar, but officials in Doha had until Monday declined to confirm

They said the project would produce five million tonnes of LNG a year from early 1999 and would cost \$4 billion, excluding the expensive tankers that would be Enron's responsibility.

If it goes ahead it would be

Oatar's third LNG project, aimed at supplementing limited oil revenue, but its sig-nificance lies also in the possibility of Gulf gas going to Israel. It was not clear vet

whether Oatar would continue to insist on an overall Middle East peace with Israel before allowing trade with Israel, but in any case this deal is structured so that it is selling the gas to Enron and not to others.
The gas will be sold FOB

- free on board - meaning Enron will be responsible for shipping and for getting it to its ultimate destinations. By targetting the Middle East and India, Enron has

managed to skate around the race for Far Eastern customers between Qatar's second project — Rasgas — and Oman's LNG project. Rasgas and Oman LNG

are fiercely competing, and success by one could conceivably kill or delay the other.

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in Doha on Jan. 18 by Qatari Energy Minister Abdullah Al Attiyah and Enron Vice-Chairman Howard Karren.

Under the agreement, Enron would put up all the financing, including Qatar's majority equity share, which would be paid off through the sale of about 40,000 barrels per day of condensate produced along with the gas.
"We won't have to shell

out one riyal," an official

Enron had in 1993 signed a letter of intent to buy 2.5 million tonnes of LNG from Rasgas — formally known as the Ras Laffan LNG Co. Ltd. - to fuel a power plant it would be building in Dabhol in western India.

But that letter has lapsed, with Euron trying to combine the Dabhol demand with demand from Israel or possibly other swources.

Israeli officials told Reuters in Muscat last week that they were interested in Qatari gas through Enron though they said that whether they would take it depended partly on the price and partly on factors including where to put the receiving terminal. The original intention was

to locate it at Eilat, Israel's Red sea tourist resort but this was potentially problematic precisely because of the tour-

The Cyprus-based Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said Monday that Israel has held talks with Amman to build it in Jordan resort - and that gas could be delivered to both Jordanian and Israeli utilities.

"It is further understood that Jordan has expressed The Qatari officials said great interest in the propos-the letter of intent was signed al," MEES commented.

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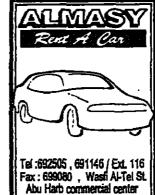
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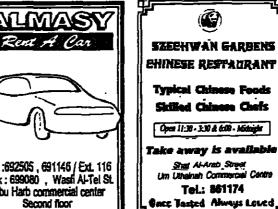




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Sainz takes charge in Monte Carlo Rally

MONTE CARLO (R) — Spaniard Carlos Sainz took charge in the Monte Carlo Rally after his British team maté Colin McRae had a spill on the second timed stage of the season's opening event

The right choice of tyres and superb driving on the twisting roads of the Ardeche hills allowed Sainz and his Subaru to build a lead of 25 seconds over the Ford Escort of last year's winner François Delecour of France after the first two timed stages.

McRae was fastest in the day's first test on dry roads from St. Pierreville to Antraigues, with the Spaniard five seconds slower. But in the second timed

section, a slippery drive to the Chavade mountain pass, the Scot missed a curve and landed his Subaru in the

McRae, who ended last season in style by winning the RAC Rally, finished the stage two minutes 38 seconds behind Sainz and outside the top 10 in the overall stand-

world champion Didier Auriol of France, three times winner of the event, was a disappointing seventh, one minute 14 seconds behind Sainz, as he struggled to adapt to the new Toyota Celica GT Four.

Auriol led drivers' criticism of new rules introduced by the International Automobile Federation (FIA) which force teams to enter cars with less powerful engines And limit tyre changes as well as YOTA

Finnish rally driver Juha Kaukkunen arriving in Valence, southern France at the wheel of his

Toyota Celica, during the 63rd Monte-Carlo Rally (AFP photo)

mechanical assistance. "We don't know where we

are heading," he said.
"We don't know how the car will behave with the new engine but we know that the slightest error, especially in the choice of tyres, will have bigger consequences.

Sainz, who won in Monte Carlo in 1991, was under threat from Delecour, who delighted the hundreds of fans lining the roads with almost reckless driving despite a misfiring engine. "It's nothing at all," the Frenchman said, "I'm having

More excitement awaited

Delecour in the last four But Sainz sounded confident: "We were lucky with timed stages of the first day on treacherous roads with melting snow and icy patches.

Leading Monte Carlo standings

1. Carlos Sainz (Spain) Subaru Impreza 2. Francois Delecour (France) Ford Escort Tommi Makinen (Finland) Mitsubishi Lancer Bruno Thiry (Belgium) Ford Escort . Juha Kankkuneo (Finland) Toyota Celica . Piero Liatti (Italy) Subaru Impreza

8. Armia Schwarz (Germany) Toyota Celica 9. Andrea Aghini (Italy) Mitsubishi Lancer 10. Philippe Bugalski (France) Renault Clio

7. Didier Auriol (France) Toyota Celica

Cagliari end Juventus' unbeaten streak

PARIS (AFP) - Italian championship pacesetters Juventus suffered a rude shock at weekend, beaten 3-0 at mid-table Cagliari while Real Madrid retained their serenity and three-point lead in Spain with a 4-0 win at home to Celta Vigo.

The disappointment for Juventus, looking for their first championship title since 1986, was reinforced when Serie A rivals Parma capitalised by moving to within one point of the lead.

Mid-table Cagliari scored two penalties, the first from Luis Oliveira in the seventh minute and the second from Muzzi with 25 minute to play.

Panamanian Dely Valdes separated those scores with a oal of his own to check Juventus' recent run of success, including wins over Parma and AS Roma in the past fortnight.

It was the side's heaviest defeat of the season which had seen them let in just 13 goals in 15 games before Sunday's setback

Parma took full advantage with Colombian Faustino Asprilla opening the scoring after two minutes and Gianfranco Zola adding a penalty in the 49th minute in their 2-0

win at Napoli. Lazio also made the most of Juventus' defeat, winning 1-0 at Brescia through an Alen Boksic strike just before the half-hour. Boksic, who managed a hat-trick in the 7-1 thrashing of Foggia last week, helped Lazio to 31 points and third place in the table to Parma's 35 and

Q.1-Neither vulnerable, as South

you hold: ★AKQ762 7K8 ○K754 ◆7

?
What do you bid now?
A.—This hand has become very good—indeed, had the holding included the jack of spades instead of a low card, we would probably ask for aces right sway. Now we want to tell partner about how much we like you hand and the choices are three.

our hand and the choices are three spades or a high reverse of three diamonds. Our choice is the former.

since it highlights the quality of our

Q.2—Naither vulnerable, as South

you hold: ◆A1048 7AQ6 ≎85432 ◆K

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 2 4 Pass
2 4 Pass ?

2 4 Pass ;
What do you bid now?
A.—Beware of singleton honors—
their value is usually overrated.
Change the king of clubs to the king

in any other suit and a move toward

slam would be warranted. Here, we think that a raise to four spades, a signoff, sdequately describes your hand

Q.3-Both vulnerable, as South

you hold:

+ H9753 VAK 0A4 4J932
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 + Page 2 + Page

What do you bid now:

A.—Only two bids come into consideration: two no trump and three clabs. The cognoscent would opt for a club raise for a simple reason.

With your wealth of controls, slam

What do you bid now?

The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 2 Page 2 7 Page

Juventus 36. AS Rome, in fourth on 28,

Blackbun Rovers' Alan Shearer tries an over head volley during his team's clash against Manchester United (AFP photo)

could only manage a 1-1 draw against visiting Cremonese while AC Milan move up one place to fifth, on the same points total as Roma, after a 2-0 win against Fiorentina, whose Argentinian striker Gabriel Batistuta missed out on making history.

With 15 goals in 15 appearances this season, Batistuta has scored 60 goals in 100 games since he joined Fiorentina in 1991. He is one goal away from joining Giancarlo Antognoni on top of the club's all-times scoring list

Fiorentina's Daniele Carnasciali was sent off in the second half, sparking a bout crowd trouble which riot police contained

Milan's French international Marcel Desailly scored the first goal after 78 minutes

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

hold:

#8 TVoid: AEJ652 #AQ10932
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 7 2 NT 4 7 Pass
Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—We are neither willing to defend nor sell out. With this much distribution the hand deserves to be

played in our combined best minor. A bid of four no trump now would still be takeout for the minors and

Q.5-As South, vulnerable, you

What do you bid now?

A.—You are certainly worth at

A.—You are certainly works as the least one move toward game. West's overcall might have abut out parturer's one-spade response and, if partner does have four spades, that strain might produce game when there are only 10 tricks available at

Q.6-As South, vulnerable, you

hold:

•1098652 7J QJ10 +AQ9
Partner opens the bidding with two
no trump. What do you respond?

A.—You are in slam territory and
you will need all the room there is to

you will need all the room there is to investigate. Bid three spades. That is a game-forcing response, leaving open the question of where and at what level to play the contract. Don't jump to four spades. That is a weak hid denying slam interest.

GOREN BRIDGE

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

and Di Canio added the second with three minutes

Real Madrid's 4-0 win against Celta Vigo delighted 90,000 home fans. Their 17year-old star Raul scored two goals in the 22 and 51st minute and Fernando Hierro added two more in the 26th and the 70th.

its three points lead on top of the table while La Coruna and Zaragoza, second and third, kept up the chase. Bebeto scored in the eight

The Madrid club maintains

minute to give Coruna a 1-0 win at Logrones, the bottom club without a win this sea-

Zaragoza, who have just acquired Brazilian World Cup player Marcos on loan from Sao Paolo, won 3-1 at home to Atletico Madrid with goals from Higuera from the penalty spot after 23 minutes, Esnaider (41min) and Pardeza (89min). Atletico Madrid pulled one back through Kiko in the 66th

minute_ Barcelona were fortunate to come away with a point from Albacete and fall five points adrift of Real in fourth place. They were one down in the first minute with a goal

from Dertycia 1.

Amor equalised but Bjelica put the home side ahead just after the half hour. With Romario gone and their striker Hristo Stoichkov suspended, Barcelona looked a lost cause. But with just five minute to go central defender scored the equaliser. In France Lyon beat Can-

nes 3-1 to move from sixth to third place. The match took centre stage as neither of the top two sides, leaders Nantes and reigning champions Paris St. Germain were playing. Florian Maurice had Lyon

1-0 up in the very first mintue. Stephane Roche fired home on the rebound and Claude-Arnaud Rivenet rounded the Cannes goalkeeper 20 minutes from time

to seal the points. Lyon could even move into second place if the French Football Federation rubberstamp a League decision

made last week. The League awarded Lyon victory over Metz after last week's match was stopped because of falling snow in the 63rd minute with Lyon 2-1

Cantona helps United close gap

A spectacular headed goal by Eric Cantona nine minutes from the end gave champion Manchester United a 1-0 victory over standings leader Blackburn Sunday and threw the English Premier League title race wide open again.

Rovers' midfielder Tim Sherwood had a goal dis-allowed a minute from the end but United deservedly collected the three points and now trails Blackburn by only

It was a day the champion made the league leader look

Italian First Division scorers

15 — Gabriel Batistuta (Fiorentina) 11 - Sandro Tovalieri (Bari)

10 — Giuseppe Signori (Lazio) 9 — Abel Balbo (Rome)

8 — Gianfranco Zola (Parma) 7 — Alen Boksic (Lazio), Fabrizio Ravanelli and Giantuca Vialli (Juventus)

Spanish First Division Scorers

17 - Ivan Zamorano (Real Madrid) 13 - Meho Kodro (Real Sociedad) 9 — Pedrag Mijatovic (Valencia), Davor Suker (Sevilla), Angel Cuellar (Real Betis)

Madrid), Carlos Munoz (Real Oviedo) 7 — Ronald Koeman (Barcelona), Vladimir Gudeli (Celta), Juan Pizzi (Tenerife), Kiko Narvaez (Atletici Madrid) 6 — Hristo Stoichkov (Barcelona), Florin Radneloin and Jordi Lardin Espanol), Bebeto and Julio Salinas. Deportivo Coruna), Bent Christensen (Compostela), Julen Guerrero (Athletic Bilbao).

- Juan Esnaider (Real Zaragoza), Jose Amavisca (Real

Black weekend for Algerian soccer

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - Algerian football went into mourning Sunday after the murder of a leading football official.

Suspected Islamic fundamentalists shot national federation president Rachid Haraigue outside his home in the centre of the capital, Algiers, and he died in hos-

Haraigue, 58, had been appointed only last year, and his murder triggered im-mediate reaction from world governing body FIFA and the African Football Confedera-

tion (CAF). FIFA deplored the killing in a statement issued from their Swiss headquarters. while Cairo-based CAF ordered one minute's silence before the 11 Nations' Cup matches scheduled for this weekend.

Algeria, buoyant after a home victory over Group 4 leaders Egypt two weeks ago, lost 2-1 to Tanzania Saturday in a crucial African Nations Cup qualifier.

Victory gave the Tanzanians a share of first place with Egypt, who once again displayed their defensive strength to force a 0-0 draw with Uganda in Kampala.

Cameroon crash in qualifier

Zimbabwe crushed Cameroon, Burkina Faso stole a point off Ivory Coast and Senegal staged a great escape in Liberia during a weekend of African Nations' Cup

Vitalis Takawira was the Zimbabwean hero in Harare, scoring a hat-trick as the Warriors devoured the oncemighty Indomitable Lions, who had Simon Moukoko sent off before half-time. Lesotho, shock conquerors

of Cameroon last year, could not contain Malawi, who maintained their unbeaten record with second-half goals from Lovemore Chafunya and Hendrix Banda in Burkina Faso, whose only

revious appearance in the finals was 17 years ago when the west African country was called Upper Volta, staged a superb recovery to draw 2-2 in Abidian. Senegal left it even later to

rescue a point in Liberia. Austrian-based forward Souleymane Sane scoring in the third minute of injury time to snatch a 1-1 draw.

Ghana maintained their merciless march towards the finals from Group 3 with a 3-1 home victory over Congo, who were sunk by two goals in as many minutes during the second half.

Yokohama lift Asian Cup Winners' Cup

SHARJAH (AFP) — Japan's Yokohama Flugels beat host club Al Shaab 2-1 in suddendeath extra-time to win the Asian Cup Winners' Cup final in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, Sunday.
The J. League club's hero was 25-year-old central de-

fender Ippei Watanabe, who headed both his side's goals from set-pieces, the decisive one coming five minutes into extra-time to finish the match. A capacity crowd of 10,000

in the Khalid bin Mohammed Stadium saw Watanabe rise high above the home defence to head in a right-wing corner in the 37th minute which gave the visitors a 1-0 lead at half-time. Al Shaab substitute Keita

Makan equalised in the 74th minute to take the tie into extra-time but it was the Japanese who struck first. Midfielder Takeo Harada swung over a free-kick from the left and Watanabe, unmarked at the far post. squeezed in a header from a narrow angle.
It was Japan's third victory

in five editions of the Asian Cup Winners' Cup following the double success of Nissan. In the play-off for third

place. Saudi Arabia's Al Ittihad beat the Telephone Organisation from Bangkok 3-0 on penalties after a 1-1 "My policy is to try to work out an extension when a play-

Barkley's Suns down Shaq's Magic Bulls crush champion Rockets 100-81

PHOENIX, Arizona (AFP)

— The National Basketball
Association's top two teams went head-to-head on Sunday, with veteran Charles Barkley and his Phoenix Suns triumphing 111-110 in overtime over youngster Shaquil-le O'Neal and the Orlando

Magic.
Phoenix's Dan Majerle led all scorers with 28 points and Barkley added 25 with 14 rebounds and nine assists. O'Neal had 24 points for

Orlando, which suffered only its eighth loss in 40 games. O'Neal was ineffective in overtime, when he missed three close shots.

"We never thought we could shut Shaq down, and tonight we didn't shut him down," Phoenix coach Paul Westphal said. "He missed some shots he ordinarily makes, so we're not going to take credit."

Orlando tried to downplay

the loss. "All the media hyped this ame so much that it was a big game for us," said Horace Grant, who scored 12 points for the Magic. "But the loss means nothing. It's just another one of 82 games we play this season, and I told the guys that going into the

While the season's leaders battled it out, the defending champion Houston Rockets fell 100-81 to the Bulls in

Chicago. Hakeem Olajuwon, who earned most valuable player honours while leading Houston to the title last season, hit

"I shot two of 18? Must be the worst game of the sea-

son," said Olajuwon.

The Bulls' centre trio of
Australian Luc Longley, Will
Perdue and Bill Wennington said they knew Olajuwon was having a bad night, and they tried to make it a little worse.

"He had a cold night and struggled to finish his shots," Longley said. "But we got in his way now and again." "I wasn't aggressive

enough, there's no excuse,' Olajuwon said. And Rockets coach Rudy Washington Bullets over the

New Jersey Nets 109-103. The win was the bullets' third in four games after los-ing 18 of 19. The loss was the third straight for New Jersey

and 11th in 14 games. Derrick Coleman led New Jersey with 23 points and nine rebounds. Chris Morris added 21 and Kenny Andeson had 20 points, but only four in the second half.

In Minneapolis, Doug West had 21 points and scored Minnesota's first eight points of the fourth quarter

as the Timberwolves handed

the Charlotte Hornets just

their second loss in 12 games

West, who had seven re-

bounds and six assists, scored

sex in a row in the final

period's opening minutes af-ter Charlotte had closed to

Isaiah Rider led all scorers

NBA ROUNDUP

100-83.

Tomjanovich sai dhe couldn't begin to explain Olajuwon's

lapse.
"I don't know how to analyse something when it doesn't happen but once every couple of leap years," he said. "When you can't get the ball in the hole, it magnifies a lot of things. Frustration sets in and you start passing up open shots. That was basical-

the problem." In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Rex Chapman hit seven 3-pointers and scored a season-high 35 points and

rookie Juwan Howard added

Washing

Minneenta

New York

Indiana

Phoentx

Portland

with 29 points, and the Wolves held the Hornets to just 37 per cent shooting from the field. Alonzo Mourning led the

111

Hornets with 20 points and 12 rebounds. 103 93

110 (OT)



Chicago Buils forward Scottie Pippen (left) Robert Horry in the first half of their match at .. jumps into the air as he recovers a ball the United Centre in Chicago. The Bulls won knocked loose by Houston Rockets forward 160-81 (AFP photo)

Unhappy Pippen wants to transfer

CHICAGO (AP) - Scottie Pippen, the unhappy Chicago Bulls star who wants to be traded, has hurt the chances of a deal with his frequent outbursts against management of the National Basketball Association club, team

owner Jerry Reinsdorf said. "Scottie's outbursts have created the perception that we have to do something," he told the Chicago Tribune in a telephone interview from his Arizona home.

"Teams may feel they have us overa barrel. It's going to take a while before they realise we don't have to trade him. As of now, I don't think we'll trade him." Reinsdorf also said Pippen

knew when he signed his contract in 1991 that he shouldn't agree to it if he planned to change his mind before it expires in 1998. "There's no way I'll redo his contract," Reinsdorf said.

er has two years left.
"I know he's underpaid. Sometimes I make good deals, and sometimes I make Reinsdorf doesn't want to

get into a war of words with Pippen, but he said he had to speak out so that other teams understood the Bulls were not desperate to make a deal. Still, he wouldn't discount the possibility of a trade eventually.

"It would be stupid to make a trade that doesn't make us a better team," he said. "I don't feel any compulsion to trade him. I thought I might as well let teams know we're not giving

him away.' Denver's Bernie Bickerstaff, Washington's John about Pippen. All were scared off with demands for

Nash and the Philadelphia's Gene Shue have all said they've talked with the Buils players and draft picks. They want your two top

76ers coach John Lucas said. "I don't think they really .want to trade him.

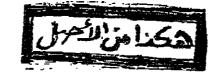
Pippen leaders the Bulls in all major statistical categories, but his salary is not among the top 40 in the NBA. He's the fourthhighest paid player on his team, having signed a fiveyear, \$18 million extension in

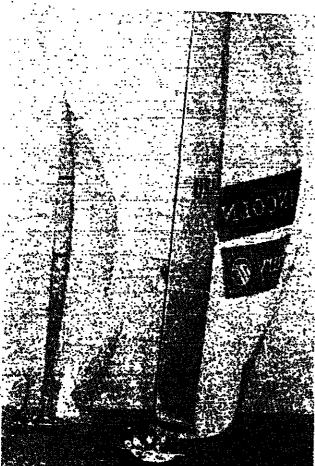
Pippen won't become a free agent until he is 32 in the 1997-98 season. His ire stems from a lack of respect and

appreciation. "I told him when he was getting ready to sign this deal that 'halfway through it you're going to think you're underpaid, especially since we front-loaded it," Reinsdorf said.

"His answer was, 'you'll never hear from me.' I told him I didn't believe it, but he promised that would be the

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A crewmember aboard Young America (R) hangs onto the mast 22 January during their America's Cup race against Stars and Stripes (AFP photo)

Kiwis top the charts in Americas Cup

And Dickson skippered

NZL-39, also away slowiy

from the starting line, to a three-minute and 52-second

victory over recently-crowned Worlds champ

Team New Zealand had a

6-0 record in the first round. NZL-39 was 5-1. Black Magic

won the first all-New Zealand

match by 4:42 in light marks for its first-round perform-

"We know how good they can sail. I think they did

better than we expected them

to do in the first round. And

they're getting better by the

the final day, finished third

with a 4-2 mark and was

followed by oneAustralia (3-3), Sydney 9.5 (2-4), France 2

(1-5) and Rioja de Espana

In Sunday's third race,

"We're not very happy

winning only the European

championship of the first

On the defender course,

Dennis Conner's Stars and

France 2 defeated the Spaniards by 3:42 in a match of

previously winless boats.

round," said Pajot.

services.

(0-6).

Nippon, which was idle on

one Australia.

SAN DIEGO (AFP) - It is not unusual to have a New Zealand boat atop the challenger standigns during the America's Cup trials.

Now there are two. New Zealand's two rival teams, representing the first multiple challenge from New Zealand, both came from behind early in their races Sunday to score victories over the two Australian boats as the first round of America's Cup trials concluded.

The results put Team New Zealand and Chris Dickson's Tag Heuer Challenge 1-2, respectively, after the first of Louis Vuitton Cup.

"We're certainly ahead of where we thought we'd be." said Dickson, whose team trained for only four days before the first round began. "We're improving every day. Now we've got a note-book full of things to do before the second round begins. But we've got a good team and Bruce Farr has designed us a good boat."

"We're pleasantly surprised," said Team New Zealand skipper Russell Coutts. "We've got room for im-

provement, too. The Coutts-skippered Team New Zealand rallied from a slow start to defeat Syd Fischer's Sydney 95, which withdrew on the last leg after trailing by more than 2½ minutes.

U.S. swimming officials seek to ban Chinese

COLORADO SPRINGS. Colorado (AFP) — U.S. swimming officials want to ban China from the Pan Pacific swimming championships in Atlanta in August because 10 Chinese swimmers tested positive for banned drugs in

The board of directors of E'S. Swimming, the sport's governing body in the United States, made the recommendation over the weekend.

A decision on the proposal is expected on February 12, when U.S. officials meet in Hawaii with the three other Pan Pacific charter countries, Australia, Canada and

Chinese women won 12 of 16 gold medals on offer at the 1994 World Championships in Rome and none tested positive for banned drugs. But in random tests before and after the Asian Games later in the year seven Chinese swimmers failed —

four men and three women. Among those who tested positive was Yang Aihua, who won the women's 400m freestyle world title on September 7, and tested positive on September 30 for high levels of the male hormone

American Todd Martin. It was man against boy as the reigning U.S. Open champion dismantled Rafter's serve-and-volley game, stringing together 33 winners.
On this form, Agassi is

No. 1 Pete Sampras in Sunday's final. The flamboyant American,

love in just 21 minutes. It was Agassi's third straight win over the 22-year-

it's pretty hard to win a game," he said.
"It was definitely very

"He wouldn't give me a

Agassi said. "I've been around for a while now in matches with this kind of anticipation, it feels like I've had a few of them and a chance to experience the better end of it and

Agassi said it was the first experience of such an occasion for Rafter and he de-

Australian Open

Agassi breaks Australians' hearts Sawamatsu, Kafelnikov in quarters; Edberg out

MELBOURNE (Agencies)

— Second-seeded Andre Agassi broke millions of Australian hearts when he outclassed the country's tennis pin-up Patrick Rafter in straight sets at the Australian Open tennis Monday.

Agassi stormed to a 6-3, 6-3, 6-4, 6-0 fourth round victory to set up a quarter-final with young 10th-seeded Russian Yevgeny Kafelni-kov, who earlier knocked out

beading for an anticipated final showdown with world

wearing his pirate bandana, cracked 13 backhand winners and nine forehand winners as he mopped up the final set to

old Australian. "He was far too good for me tonight, he hit too many clean winners," said Rafter, adding that Agassi could make "you look pretty silly out there.

volley. If you don't get one, focussed tennis on my part,

the worst end of it.

"I was pretty prepared and knew what I had to do. I tried to keep as disciplined as possible and not to let anyemotionally and I thought I executed that well.'

served a lot of credit for the

way he handled the pressure. "The crowd can either work for you or against you

and it all depends on how you respond to it and it allowed me to bear down and maybe distract him a bit. It came down to tennis tonight and I thought I hit the ball well." Agassi said he felt he was in for a tough battle in Rafter's first three service games.

"Apart from hitting the aces he was going for a lot on his second serve and it took me a while to get a read on it, took me a while to zone in on

The Las Vegas dazzler said first-week draw where he could move through so easily

into the second week. Agassi, who became the first unseeded player to win the U.S. Open in almost 30

unless he was pushed flat out. "The next round against Kafelnikov is when I want to see myself more to another

Edberg, who has reached at least the last eight in Mel-



Japan's Naoko Sawamatsu celebrates after beating her opponext to reach the quaterfinals (AFP photo)

MIAMI (R) - With the Suthe same city this week could

per Bowl only a week away, hotels in Miami were already filled to the brim but demand for tickets to next Sunday's game appeared to be declining amid expectations it will

\$200 overlooking the end zone were reported to be selling for between \$700 and \$800, down from around \$1,000 a few days ago.
The excitement of being in

dium on January 29.

The San Francisco 49ers. champions of the National Football Conference, are favoured by about 20 points over the American Football Conference's San Diego

Teams from the NFC have won the last ten Super Bowls and few expect the run to be halted by San Diego this

to attend a 'free' concert by world famous tenor Luciano Pavarotti with the Florida Philharmonic Orchestra on Miami Beach Sunday although their view may be restricted as promoters have sold seats directly in front of the stage for up to \$190 each.

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The Directorate of Projects Services/Ministry of Education announces the extension of closing date of the following tenders as a part of the third Education Sector Investment Project No. (JO-P8) financed by the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, Japan (OECF). Until February 15, 1995 instead of January 31st, 1995.

Tender's No. Title Fees JD 13/94 (A) Lab. Equipment (Physics & Geology Lab) 13/94 (B) Lab. Equipment (Chemistry & Biology) 13/94 (C) Edu. Video Casseti Audio Visual Aids 14/94 100 15/94 Soorts Equipment 100 Arts & Craft Equipment 100 Pre-Vocational

Edu. W/Shop

Computer

Women Education

Office Equipment

17/94(B)

18/94

interested bidders are invited to collect tenders docume from Procurement Division of the Directorate of Projects Services/Ministry of Education, against the Payment of the

Head of Special

75

50

100

years last September in New York, said he could not peak

Stefan Edberg suffered his earliest exit for over a decade at the Australian Open as unseeded Aaron Krickstein joined Agassi, world number one Pete Sampras, Jim Courier and Michael Chang in the last eight.

first as a 16-year-old in 1982, won the first two sets only to see Krickstein conjure a 6-7 5-7 6-4 7-6 6-4 triumph from near-certain defeaat.

Yevgeny Kafelnikov powered into the first grand slam quarterfinal of his short but successful tennis career when he upset American Todd Martin in straight sets Monday.

The sometimes volatile Russian, seeded 10th, downed eighth-seeded Mar-tin 6-1, 6-4, 6-2 in just 96

minutes. He was joined in the last eight by power-serving Dutchman Jacco Eltingh, who slammed down 34 aces in his marathou victory over

American Patrick McEnroe Eltingh triumphed 6-4, 6-4, 6-7 (7-9), 5-7, 6-4 after a draining three hour-37 mi nute struggle.

> Japan's Sawamatsu goes through

Japan's Naoko Sawamatsu gave her devastated parents something to cheer when she won through to her first-ever grand slam quarter-final at the Australian Open tennis championships.

Sawatmatsu, 21, whose family home near Kobe was destroyed in last week's earthquake, stunned American 11th-seed Mary Joe Fernandez 6-47-6 with some fighting tennis after she decided not to pull out of the tournament on the advice of her aunt.

The 26th-ranked university student, who desperately wanted to lift her parents spirits by winning, now meets top seed and world number two Arantxa Sanchez Vicario who beat Slovakia's Karina Habsudova 7-5 6-0 and has vet to drop a set at the open.

another 21-year-old, Mexico's Angelica Gavaldon, pulled off a shock 7-5 6-0 victory over third seed Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic, to reach her second Grand Slam



The 96th-ranked Gavaldon, who has achieved little of note in the game since her previous appearance in the last eight at Flinders Park in 1990, took full advantage of a listless display by Novotna and wrapped up the second set in just 24 minutes.

"It was just a horrible match," Novotna said. "I cannot remember when I

played so badly." Gavaldon now meets 47thranked American Marianne Werdel Witmeyer, ensuring at least one unseeded semi-

Japan's Sawamatsu, who described the win as her bestever result, was also given some cheer with the news that her best friend, feared killed in last Tuesday's earthquake, was in fact alive.

But she added that a lot of people she knew, including a 12 OLUCI 21 died in the earthquake which killed nearly 5,000 people and left another 300,000

The disaster had cast a mood of deep gloom over the Japanese contingent at the Open and Monday prompted the players on the women's tour to organise an auction for earthquake victims during next week's Pan Pacific Open m Tokyo.

"We are going to try and do stuff while we are there (in Tokyo) and do everthing we can now to raise money," American Lindsay Davenport told reporters.

Players' racquets, clothing and shoes are being donated for the auction, according to the sixth-ranked Davenport, who said she also expected cash donations.

Sanchez Vicario was not thinking about her quarterfinal opponent. "I just try to play match by match. I know Naoko very well and she knows me too ... she's a very good player and also fights hard."

tled for every point against Fernandez, the 1992 Open finalist, who fought back from 5-2 down in the second set to take the match to a tie-break.

Super Bowl ticket demand declining

Stripes, with Paul Cayard again steering, handed Kevin Mahaney's Young America its first los by a margin of 3:09 in very light and shifty winds. Young America finished the first round-robin with a 5-1

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be a blowout.

Tickets with a face value of

well surpass the excitement of being in Joe Robbie Sta-

Chargers.

Nevertheless, swarms of visitors have filled Miami hotels to overflowing.

Early visitors will be able

Yeboah finally links up Even when that finally ar-

LONDON (R) — Ghanaian international striker Anthony Yeboah finally joined Leeds United for a chib record fee of 3.4 million pounds (\$5.39 million) on Monday ending weeks of delays that held up

his signing.

The 28-year-old originally agreed a move to Elland Road almost three weeks ago but before he officially joined from German club Eintracht Frankfurt, Yeboah had to wait for a work permit.

rived his signing was delayed because he had forgotten to

obtain a visa. But on Monday he trained with his new team mates for the first time and admitted to being only . "70 or 80 per cent fit" having not played since the beginning of the Bundes-

liga break But he was confident of his ability to adapt quickly to the hectic demands of the English Premier League after finishing Germany's top scorer in two seasons.

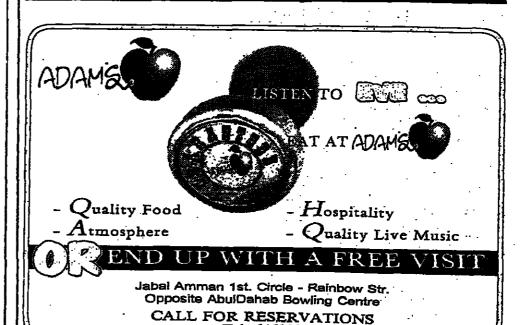
"I think the German type of football and that in England is quite similar although football bere is very aggressive," said Yeboah.

"When I first went to Germany from Ghana I'was very young and found it tough in the first two or three months but I soon adapted and I'll he trying as hard as possible to adapt to football over here as

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Mubarak refuses to budge on NPT

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak insisted Monday that Egypt would not sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) unless Israel also joins up, as talks with Israeli and U.S. officials failed to break the deadlock.

"I confirm once again that I will not sign the (extension of the) NPT unless Israel signs it or unless we reach an arrangement assuring us in advance" that the Jewish state will do so in the future, he told the weekly Mayo. mouthpiece of the ruling National Democratic Party.

"It is an irrevocable principle. Egypt will not bow to any pressure whatever the circumstances, for its dignity is too precious and we will not allow anything to damage

Mr. Mubarak met U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Middle East Affairs Robert Pelletreau on Monday to discuss the issue.

The visiting envoy was terse after the meeting. saying only that "relationships between Egypt and the USA are strong and excellent.

Mr. Pelletreau has said the United States was trying "to convince the signatory countries not to link their position on the treaty's adoption to the position of another coun-

Experts have warned that Egypt's stance could put it on a collision course with the United States, its main aid

Washington is pushing hard for the treaty, which is due to be renewed by a meeting of the 169 member states in April in New York, to be extended indefinitely.

Mr. Mubarak's political advisor Osama Al Baz held talks Sunday with Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin but failed to resolve the two countries' differ-

He warned that Arab

countries could obtain nuclear weapons themselves if Israel continued to possess a nuclear arsenal.

Mr. Beilin said: "We are not going to sign the NPT. First we should have a comprehensive peace in our part of the world and then work to have a nuclear-free zone, and then to join the NPT later."

The Russian ambassador to Cairo, Vladimir Poliakov, said Moscow was also in contact with Israel and Arab countries so that "all the countries in the region adhere to the NPT or sign its

"Israel will sign the treaty at the end of the day and the main thing is to avoid a proliferation of nuclear arms in the Middle East," he said.

Israel has consistently refused to sign the NPT and has never acknowledged possessing nuclear weapons, although Western experts say the Jewish state has about 200 nuclear warheads.

Mr. Pelletreau's visit comes about two weeks after a trip by Defense Secretary William Perry, apparently to reassure Egypt of its role as a strategic ally. Vice President Al Gore is to visit Cairo this spring, and President Mubarak is expected to meet President Bill Clinton in March in

Some Egyptian officials fear Congress may cut its \$2.1 billion in annual assistance, Washington's second-largest aid commitment, despite reassurances by Mr. Perry and other U.S. officials.

Mr. Pelletreau stressed the United States' strong relations with Cairo, put in doubt by a series of articles in U.S. newspapers criticising Egypt's close relations with Libya and asking for an aid

"The relationship between Egypt and the United States is a strong and excellent rela-tionship," Mr. Pelletreau



RELIEF: An emergency supply worker checks through his inventory of boxes at Ashiya, Kobe. Large quantities of supplies and basic needs provided by Japan and countries

around the world are available for the victims of Tuesday's earthquake at shelters and distribution centres (see page one) (AFP photo)

Jordan, Israel discuss gas plant — MEES

NICOSIA (AP) — Israel is holding talks with Jordan to build a terminal near the Kingdom's port of Aqaba to process liquified natural gas

for both countries, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday. The oil industry newsletter, published in Nicosia, said that Jordan had "expressed

great interest in this propos-

The weekly newsletter said that Enron Corporation, the largest U.S. gas transmission company, was expected to start preliminary talks with Israel for the delivery of around two million to 2.5 million tonnes of Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) a year to the proposed regasification terminal near Agaba, which lies

Enron is negotiating with Qatar and Yemen on major

NEWS IN BRIEF

close to the Israeli port of

LNG projects.
On Jan. 18, it signed a letter of intent with Qatar for the envisaged export of up to five million tonnes a year, with first deliveries to India and Middle Eastern countries. probably Jordan and Israel, to start in late 1998 or

Most of this is expected to be destined for Israel, with some two million tonnes a year for India. Jordan signed a peace trea-

ty with Israel in October, the first with an Arab state since Egypt in 1979. Israel is pushing hard to open trading links with Arab states as the U.S.-sponsored peace process unfolds.

Qatar, which pursues a foreign policy that is increasingly independent of its five partners in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), has said it will not sign any

trade deal with Israel before the peace process has been completed.

But oil industry sources say that is not likely to be a major problem given the time frame involved for Enron's deliveries from Qatar and because Qatar, along with the other GCC states, last year lifted the secondary economic boycott of companies that do business with Israel.

Senior Qatari officials have met with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, a staunch advocate of establishing firm trade links with the Arab World, several times over the last 18 months.

Reports from Israel in recent months have said Israel also hopes to sign an agreement with Qatar for transporting Gulf oil and gas to Europe through Israeli ports. Qatar is rapidly developing its gas fields, the biggest in

the world with reserves estimated at four trillion cubic metres. So far its main export targets have been the Far East. It is now developing offshore reserves and needs new markets.

The economic survey said one of the "particularly attractive features" of the \$4 billion Enron package was the focus on short-haul customers in West Asia and the Middle East "rather than the traditional emphasis on longhaul clients in the Far East.

"This means that Enron is not competing with existing LNG projects in Qatar."

The weekly newsletter said under the agreement signed in Doha, Enron "will undertake to arrange and provide all financing for the project."

The U.S. company is committed to buy all the LNG from Qatar's Ras Laffan port.

condition they not be named. said the work team also would spell out the basis for normalising relations be-

tween Riyadh and Sanaa. Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal will head the Saudi side to the talks while the Yemeni side will be led by Planning Minister Abdul Qader Bajamal and Deputy Foreign Minister

sion of Kuwait in August

Riyadh then retaliated by

Kidnap trial opens in Algeria

ALGIERS (Agencies) — The trial of a dozen suspected Islamic militants accused of kidnapping three French consular officials opened here Monday, as journalists ignored an order from a hardline armed Islamic group to stop work.

Only 12 of the 26 people charged appeared in court, the remainder are still being sought by the security forces. They are accused of mem-bership of a terrorist group, undermining state security and kidnap.

A number of suspects who would have faced trial have been killed in shoot-outs with the security forces. The French nationals

seized by fundamentalist gunmen — Jean-Claude Thevenot and his wife Michele, and Alain Fressier are not expected to appear in court despite defence demands that they be sum-

Defence attorneys last month demanded an investigative commission be sent to France to interview the trio. It remains unclear whether the commission has left for France. The trial at one of Alger-

ia's three special terrorism courts, has been delayed three times by legal argu-At a previous hearing de-

fence lawyers alleged one of the main defendants had been castrated during torture by the security forces aimed at securing a confession.

The French consular officials were kidnapped by a gang of fundamentalist gunmen in October 1993 from a carpark outside their home in downtown Algiers as they prepared to go to work.

They were released a week later. Michele Thevenot was freed 24 hours before the others with a message from the Armed Islamic Group (GIA) — the most radical of Àlgeria's armed Islamic movements - giving foreigners a month to leave the country or face death.

The murder Sunday of Frenchman Joseph Belaiche took the number of foreigners killed since the ultimatum expired to 76, including 26 French nationals.

which Sunday renewed a 'ban" on French citizens entering Algeria. Meanwhile, Algerian tele-

Most of the killings have seen carried out by the GIA

vision and radio journalists continued to work normally Monday in defiance of a GIA order to stop work.

Midday newscasts went ahead as scheduled without mentioning the GIA death threats, with most of Monday's newspapers also ignored.

The GIA has accused journalists of treachery for failing to uphold their cause, which is to set up an Islamic-run government.
The threat came one day

nuclear facility after suspected Islamic mili-NEW YORK (R) — A security system installed by the United States late last year has been in place around the Russian nuclear stockpile most vulnerable to theft. tants shot dead the president of Algeria's football federation. Rashid Haraigue, in central Algiers.

Deng in good health — senior. Chinese official KUALA LUMPUR (R) Chinese patriarch Deng Xiaoping is in good health

old age, a senior Chines official told reporters Mon

day. "Deng is actually in

good health but being an old

man you have to expect old

men's illnesses," said Wang Dao Han, who is director of

the Shanghai Economic Zone

and China's Association for

Relations Across the Taiwan Straits (ARATS). "All the

Chinese in China are praying that he will have a long life.

Lumpur for a forum on

Malaysia and China invest

ments, was speaking to re-porters after the opening of

the forum. Concerns about the health of Chinese para-

mount leader Mr. Deng, wh

is 90 years old, have affected

markets in Hong Kong and

Southeast Asia. Malaysian

Prime Minister Mahathir

Mohammad told reporter

Monday that his country was

not worried that Mr. Deng's

death would affect the com

try's economic policies signi

ficantly. "We are not worried. China has set its course

and it is not going to deflect

from this because of a very

accuser wants to

LONDON (AFP) — Jordan

Chandler, the teenager win

claimed singer Michael Jack

son sexually-abused him,

wants to see Mr. Jackso

again "to talk things

through," he said in an inter-

view published Monday in

the daily Today. "I want to

see Michael Jackson again

People might think that's

crazy, I know he did some

bad things but I feel I have

to..," Chandler now 15 told

the British daily. "There is so

much that has happened.

just need to speak to him about it ... It would be heal

13. Chandler claim

Mr. Jackson had taken advantage of their friendship

to make sexual advances to

him at the star's "Neverland ranch in Santa Barbara, Cal-

fornia. An official investiga-

tion was opened into the allegations in August 1993

but the Chandler family late withdrew the complaint and Jordan refused to testif

against the singer following

an out-of-court settleme

Newsweek magazine reported Sunday. The Kurchatov Institute of Atomic Energy

gy in Moscow, which house hundreds of pounds of nuc-lear material, had no inver-

tory controls, monitoring sys

tem or adequate fencing. Newsweek reported. "There

was nothing to stop thieve

from backing up a truck and

wallet with \$15,600

with Mr. Jackson.

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age," he said.

Number 582 Volume 19 King honours but is prone to the illnesses of

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The cave was some the

jerusalem settlers defy government

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM natural consequence of old Michael Jackson's

Prince Sultan hails

RIYADH (AFP) — Saudi Arabia has hailed talks with Yemeni officials aimed at setfing a border dispute, saying bey are being conducted in a traternal spirit. Defence Minister Prince Sultan Ben Abdul Aziz, quoted by the official news agency SPA, told the Saudi cabinet Tuesthy for us both to meet face to face and talk things day the talks are taking place in a fraternal spirit with through," Chandler was the aim of reaching a joint approach to all the outstandmy problems between the 180 countries." The Yemeni delegation led by Parliamenary Speaker Sheikh Abdulbh Al Ahmar has been in Riyadh since Sunday. Sheikh Al Ahmar told AFP two countries had agreed to set ma joint committee to outme an accord to settle the 0-year-old dispute and disways to develop Saudi-Yemeni ties.

⁷sentenced to

Algerian court on Tuesday handed down death sentences against seven people. it of them still on the run, for the October 1993 abducnon of three French consular officials. The special court also handed down jail terms against other defendants, including one life term, another 7 20 years, two of eight lears, one of three and another of six months. Five people were acquitted. The mly defendant sentenced to death to be in court was Mohammad Ait Bellouk, a Moroccan accused of having diven the vehicle used in the kidnap. His mother, Fatma-Zohra, accused of having kept watch over Michele Thevenot, one of the consu-

KUWAIT (AP) - Iraq will sume next month returning

Visit Al Dalai Bazaar at the Forte Grand Hotel 25, 3, 1995

ABU DHABI (AP) - Japan's Crown Prince Naruhito and Princess Masako arrived Monday on a four-day visit to the United Arab Emirates, the second leg of their Middle East swing. Abu Dhabi Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces Sheikh Khalifa Ben Zayed Al Nahayan gave the royal couple a red carpet welcome. The official Emirates news agency WAM said the visit will foster bilateral bonds between the two friendly nations. During their stay, the royal couple will meet with a number of officials and inaugurate a new Japanese consultate in Dubai, the second largest emirate among seven federated in the UAE.

Japanese crown prince visits UAE

Iran rules out talks with U.S.

TEHRAN (AFP) - Iran has ruled out negotiations with the United States towards normalising ties, broken off 15 years ago, the official news agency IRNA said Monday. Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Nateq Nuri told university students and teachers in the city of Semnan, central Iran, that the country's leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, had banned officials from any contact with Washington. Ayatollah Khamenei is empowered by the constitution to set the guidelines for the country's domestic and foreign policies. Last November, he rejected "any relations or negotiations" with the United States "unless Washington changes its ways" towards the Islamic republic, "Iran follows an independent policy and no foreign power is allowed to meddle in our affairs," Mr. Nateq Nuri said of the United States. "Our decisions are based on the interest of our country and that of the Islamic World."

Blast suspect's release shifts blame to Iran

LONDON (AFP) - Gemany's release earlier this month of a key suspect in the Lockerbie airline bombing has shifted suspicion for the 1988 attack from Libya to Iran. according to press reports here. On December 21, 1988, Pan Am Flight 103 from London to New York was blown up over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 270 people. Abdul Ghandanfar, 53, Syrian-born and one of two Palestinians jailed in Germany for "terrorism" offences, was released in Germany and sent back to Syria as part of a secret deal negotiated with Iran. The pair had been arrested in Frankfurt in October, 1988, two months before the Lockerbie bombing. Ghandanfar's release by German authorities raised doubts about the official view that Libvans were responsible for the atrocity, according to weekend press reports here. At the time of their arrest, together with 12 other Palestinians, the German authorities recovered bomb equipment similar to that used to blow up the Pan Am flight over Lockerbie, Scotland.

Israeli interrogators given more 'leeway'

TEL A'.TV (AFP) — The Israeli government extended Monday the right of the security services to use greater force to extract confessions, Israel radio reported. A ministerial committee which oversees the security services and is chaired by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin took the decision. In November, Mr. Rabin eased restrictions on the use of force for three months following a wave of attacks by Islamic fundamentalists. Israeli interrogators are supposed to follow guidelines which allow for "moderate physical pressure," but human rights groups have long charged that Palestinians are routinely tortured.

Prehistoric fossils found in Oman

MUSCAT (AFP) — French and Italian geologists have discovered plant fossils 280 million years old in the Houshi Haof region of central Oman, the daily Oman reported here Monday. Oil ministry expert Hareb Al Hashemi, quoted by the paper, said samples of prehistoric tree trunks, branches and leaves had been sent to France for analysis. The excavations are part of a three-year international research project on geological changes which also covers sites in Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Morocco, Mr.

Egypt opens Gaza office

GAZA CITY (AFP) — Egypt became the second Arab country to establish diplomatic links with the Palestinian self-rule authority when it opened a representative office here Monday. Egyptian diplomat Mahmoud Korayem presented his credentials to Yasser Arafat and later told reporters "relations between Egypt and the Palestinian Authority are constantly strengthened. A career diplomat who headed the Palestinian department at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry," Mr. Korayem said his functions will include expanding economic cooperation with the Palestimians and facilitating travel to Egypt. Morocco was the first Arab country to establish a diplomatic office in Gaza.

Moroccans pray for rain

RABAT (R) - Prayers for rain were held in mosques and synagogues across Morocco this weekend but reports say it may already be too late to save this year's harvest with water reservoirs virtually empty and the rainy season half over. The meteorological centre in Casablanca said on Monday there was no chance of rain for the next five days. "We are facing a drought. It is there for all to see," said Al Bayane newspaper in a recent editorial. The country has so far received only 657 million cubic metres of rain, one third of the amount in a normal year. The rainy season normally runs from September to April.

Israeli businessman shot dead in Hungary

BUDAPEST (AFP) - An Israeli businessman was shot dead by a fellow Israeli visiting him in the eastern Nyiregyhaza Sunday, police said Monday. The 33-year-old victim, who was identified only by his initials, as C.M., died on the spot after he was shot in the chest from a 6.35-calibre Zbroyovka handgun in his rented flat in Nyiregyhaza Sunday afternoon, police said. They found that the man was shot by a visitor, feilow Israeli Isah Datashvili, who was opn the run Monday. Police launched a wide investigation to find Datashvili, they added.

Iranian hijackers extradited to Russia

OSLO (AFP) - Three Iramian citizens who took control of an airliner from the Russian Aerofiot company in Sepember 1993 and forced the plane to land outside Oslo. will be extradited to Russia on Tuesday. "The plane for Moscow leaves tomorrow morning, and the three Iranian hijackers will be handed over to Russian authorities on arrival in Moscow, police inspector Staale Svendsen siad. The defence lawyers asked the Ministry of Justice Monday to secure some basic rights for the hijackers. They want to know which Russian prison the hijackers will go to, and who will be responsible for the investigation on the Russian

Kuwaiti dinars going cheap in Greece

ATHENS (AFP) - Kuwaiti dinars stolen fom Kuwaiti banks during the Gulf war are being soid on the cheap by two companies in Greece, the pro-government Greek daily Niki reported in its evening edition Monday. The paper said the two Athens-based companies, which it refused to name, were selling the dinars for between 150 and 200 drachmas (60 and 75 U.S. cents). The official rate in the Greek banks is 700 drachmas (\$2.9). The paper said an unnamed businessman had been invited to buy 100,000 dinars at 17 million drachmas or slightly more than \$70,000. while the official value was 70 million drachmas or \$290,000. The businessman contacted the paper with the

Saudi-Yemeni team to work out settlement

RIYADH (Agencies) — A joint Saudi-Yemeni team was to start work Monday to map of border disputes that have led to military clashes in recent weeks, officials said.

The officials, who spoke on

Abdo Ali Abdul Rahman. The move towards easing the tensions that threatened a conflavration in the southeastern region of the Arabian peninsula was a result of talks hat Yemen Parliament Speaker Sheikh Abdullah Al Ahmar had with the Saudi

Sheikh Ahmar, a powerful, pro-Saudi tribal chieftain in Yemen, arrived in the Saudi talks with Defence Minister Prince Sultan.

Sheikh Ahmar told the Associated Press that "the work team will seek to settle the border dispute between the two countries and any pending issues between the two countries.

Aside from border clashes after charges and countercharges of incursions and troop build-ups along the borders, relations between the two countries have been strained since Yemen President Ali Abdullah Saleh sympathised with Saddam Hussein following the Iraqi inva-

cutting off valuable financial aid to Yemen and kicking out nearly a million Yemeni

WHO: Up to 2.9 million women might die of AIDS in 1990s

Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN - A new study on

women and AIDS published by the United Nations in preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women to be held in Beijing from September 4-15, 1995. shows that women have moved to the centre of this growing epidemic, which was long considered a "homosexual man's disease."

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), five million women worldwide have been in-fected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), and almost half of all newly infected adults are women. In 1993 alone, more than one million women contracted the virus. WHO estimates that by the year 2000, nearly 14 million women will have become infected with HIV, and about four million will have died.

Young women appear to

to a United Nations Develop-

ment Programme (UNDP)

study on AIDS, 70 per cent

of the 3,000 women a day

who contract HIV and the

500 women who die daily

between the ages of 15 and Women run the additional risk of transmitting the virus

from AIDS worldwide are

to their babies during pregnancy, delivery or while breastfeeding, particularly since the majority of women are not aware of their condition and are often diagnosed after becoming pregnant or giving birth. Women's greater vulnerability to HIV is portrayed by

the study as the result of biological, epidemiological and social factors. As the receptive partner, women have a larger mucosal surface exposed during intercourse: moreover, semen contains a far higher concentration of HIV than vaginal fluid. meaning that women run a bigger risk of infection.

Women are also epidemiologically more vulnerable to HIV transmission through blood transfusion, which, particularly in

the developing world, they be the group most susceptible frequently require during to HTV infection. According pregnancy or childbirth. But social factors, particularly women's sexual subordination, are most likely to expose women to the risk of HIV infection, the study said.

In the UNDP study on

that they dared not deny a husband his "conju al rights". even when they knew that he was engaging in risky sexual behaviour, since to do so might result in divorce or abandonment. The same women confessed unwillingness to broach the subject of condom use with their husbands for fear of similar repercussions. In addition, poverty and other factors

infection.

AIDS, several women said

Women's sexual subordination is seen by the study as a direct result of their lower status in society, lack of independent income and lack of control over their sexual and economic lives. At the World Conference on Women in Beijing, the ques-tion of women and AIDS will be high on the agenda. This preparatory study concludes that the world is yet to fully realise the special threat that AIDS poses to women, and that combatting this threat requires the end of discrimination against women as

loading what they wanted an unidentified U.S. office told the magazine for an item in its Jan. 30 edition. Follow ing the establishment of U.S. security measures at Kurcha tov, a review of security at 57 other high-risk facilities was agreed to by the Moscow government — including the Obninsk breeder-reactor reoften force women into comsearch facility, the magazine mercial sex, which signifisaid. cantly increases their risk of Honest Kiwi returns

WELLINGTON (R) -New Zealand motorist saved a European tourist from what might have been a very expensive holiday, newspapers cklander came across a wallet containing the equivalent of s15,600, most of it in German marks, and handed it in to police at the weekend. Police said the "rather inper look-ing" tourist, who lost the money when his beg fell from his car, was relieved and surwell as the dismantling of prised to retrieve it. "He just cultural and legal barriers about fell over when he got it back," senior Sergeant Earl which obstruct women's decision-making and choices. Wyatt said.

Then Col. Couillard went in se thought the found an unit the found an unit thought After 2 day amp in Aladag Valley. After 2 day amp in Aladag Valley, then led to the field t

s. Korean envoy MMAN (Petra) - His Minesty King Hussein on lestly conferred on North horea's Ambassador to Jorforest day Sok Ling the lordanian Independence Medal of the First Order on be occasion on the ambassaor's end of duty in Jordan. the medal was presented to the medal was presented to the outgoing ambassador by layer Al Hadid, the Foreign Mustry's secretary general, 12 lunch given in his hon-Mr. Wang said. Mr. Wang in Malaysia's capital Kuala

(AFP) - The heads of settlegents around Jerusaiem frew down the gauntlet to be government on Tuesday ening up a forum to boost mismuction. The move was amounced as a direct chalinge to Prime Minister Yisgt up a special ministerial mmittee to control new building in "greater Jeru-glem." Local authority mies from Jerusalem and he settlements of Maaie Admin, Givat Zee, Gush Etzion. Efrat and Betar met Isesday in the Holy City and announced "cooperative dorts aimed at fighting to maintain the momentum in construction and development of the entire area."

blks with Yemenis

^{death} in Algeria

ALGIERS (AFP) - An official kidnapped, was handed a six-month prison

isq to return Kuwaiti property

Auwaiti possessions taken during its seven-month occupation of the emirate. the Kitwait News Agency | Kitwait News Agency | It quoted Sulaiman Majed Al | Shaheen, a Foreign Ministry | It was bider-secretary, as saying a scior United Nations official monned him of Iraq's deci-Monday.

